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Feeding Sheep on Beet Pulp

By ROSCOE WOOD.

EVERY section in this western country where water has made irrigation possible seems to have witnessed much the same procedure. First came cattle on the virgin pastures of the buffalo, then the sheep. The sheepman settled and invested his money in land, then put water on that land through a ditch. Alfalfa came,

long ago, when Billings was one of the great primary wool markets of the United States. Fourteen million pounds has been handled in a single year; last year less than two million pounds comprised the total. Naturally it was a sheep center, and is yet. It is said that one of the largest operators in the country in buying, feeding and selling

country. Out a little way there are still sheep. The substantial men of the town founded their fortunes on the woolies, and an evening in the hotel lobbies will make you think that there are still a few sheep in the country roundabout.

Here is located one of the largest concentrated sheep-feeding plants in



Beet Pulp on Left and Alfalfa on Right Side of Alley.

and the sheep marketed the alfalfa. The waste by-product in this process, the manure, was returned to the land to increase its productive capacity, and then came the sugar beet. Again enters the sheep; he seems to be the one essential factor in every equation in which the result spells profit.

Montana was for years the first state in the Union in number of sheep, and today stands second, but with annually diminishing flocks. Well-posted men declare that the reduction this last year has been 20 per cent. The cause, the curtailment of range by the settler and the dry-farmer. Time was, and not

sheep and lambs makes his headquarters here.

Billings lies on the Yellowstone river, a little way north of the Crow Indian reservation, one of the greatest natural pastures still intact, and about midway east and west of the state. It is the commercial center of an irrigated valley about ten miles wide and twenty long. The land on either side, especially west and a short way east is bench land comparatively level and has proven very productive when water has been turned over it. It was a great sheep country in the good old range days, and is now becoming a farming

the country, outside of a feeding station adjacent to Omaha or Chicago. On about a section of land there are being fattened this winter approximately a thousand cattle and eighty thousand sheep and lambs. A sugar beet factory with its by-product of beet pulp occasions this, and the way in which the waterized sawdust of this sugar mill is transformed into palatable steaks, roasts and chops is not without interest.

When this mill started eleven years ago E. B. Ryan began to feed the pulp to cattle and old ewes. He is still feeding old ewes and cattle, and there ap-

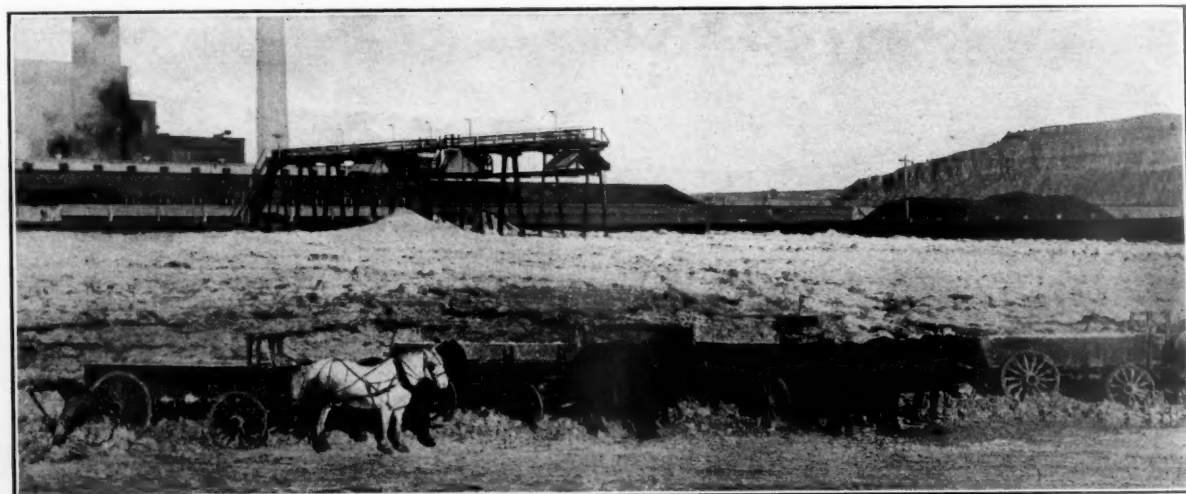
pears every indication that this work makes him a good living. This season he will feed around five to six hundred cattle and five to six thousand old ewes and wethers. Now there is nothing particularly distinctive about a pulp-feeding plant except the odor, and it greets you from afar. There may be more highly perfumed jobs than shoveling pulp, but if there are we do not care to make their acquaintance. The sheep are put in pens which hold four to five hundred, with common panels around the outside; through these panels the sheep reach the pulp and hay. The pens are placed in rows, between which are alleys of sufficient width that a wagon with a wide rack

saccharine matter left to make the pulp palatable, and as soon as the sheep learn to eat it they are greedy for it. The pens are made a good size so as to give plenty room for the sheep to exercise and also to assure ample panel space for both pulp and hay.

The feeding period is all the way from sixty days to four months, but the bulk of stuff is finished in 90 to 110 days. The number fed is determined by the amount of pulp obtainable, which is pretty well determined before feeding commences, for the mill knows approximately how many tons of beets it will have, and consequently the amount of pulp; although this factory fell short ten to fifteen per cent

keeps the records of each feeder. From here it goes to the sheep or cattle direct, and evidently the shorter the distance hauled the more economically it can be fed; especially when men get \$2.50 per day for handling it, besides the expense of teams and wagons.

The expense of feeding sheep is determined in no small measure by the amount of labor required, as well as by the quantity and cost of hay. Ryan estimates that one man and team can care for sixteen to seventeen hundred sheep. Others figure around ten to twelve hundred head per man. It depends on conditions and on the men. An average consumption of pulp varies from 17 to 24 pounds per head per day



Loading Pulp From the Silo.

can be driven through, with room for pulp to be fed on one side of the alley and hay on the other side. As the pulp is 94 per cent water, no drinking water is required for the fattening stock.

Feeding begins in the fall as soon as the mill starts grinding, or slicing, beets. The sheep are bought around Billings and traileed into the lots. They learn to eat the pulp by finding it on their hay, the common practice being to scatter a little pulp over the alfalfa, and as soon as the sheep have learned to know what it is, which generally takes two or three days, and sometimes a week, the pulp is fed by itself on one side of the pen, and the hay is fed on the opposite side. There is enough

of the expected amount this last year, owing to a shorter crop of beets than usual.

In the beginnings of the manufacture of sugar from beets in this country the pulp was a waste product, the utilization of which was no small problem, and it was given away to men who could dispose of it without expense to the factory. At Billings they sold the first pulp for forty cents a ton; now they get seventy-five cents. The feeder pays all expense of taking from the silo, as is called the big bin in which the stuff drops from the carrier which brings it from the mill, drives it across the scale just outside the silo, where the factory weigher

for the entire feeding period, with about 1½ pounds of alfalfa hay. As a general average in round figures, it is estimated, that it takes a ton of pulp to fatten a sheep, and this makes a gain of 15 to 20 pounds.

This man Ryan has been a continuous persistent feeder, and he confesses to a loss in but one year, and that was when every sheep-feeder in the United States took a loss. But no one should think that loss is not possible; we even learned of men who fed pulp in this same district actually making a loss this year. And that hardly seems possible when we remember market conditions. It takes more than just pulp, hay, and sheep to produce profit; ex-

perience and skill have a place in this combination, and we suspect that is what Ryan gets paid for supplying.

It looks like a simple proposition to put a bunch of sheep inside a string of 3-board panels, on one side put all the alfalfa hay they want, and on the other shovel out beet pulp. The weather is a disturbing factor. Warm, open weather is fine for the pulp, but it dulls the sheep's appetite, produces wet, muddy yard which even large quantities of straw can not keep dry nor prevent sore feet and consequent lameness. A lame sheep on a warm day does not relish feed, even though it is sweet, and when he does not eat there is no gain. The clear cold day makes

four years, but he has demonstrated that he is no novice at the game. This season he is feeding close to thirty thousand head of old ewes, wethers and lambs, mostly lambs. At the time of our visit he had already marketed practically a third of these. A shipment of seven cars sent to market at that time showed a gain of 25 pounds per head, in 90 days. But that not all is profit was disclosed by a bunch of crippled ewes and lambs, that had become sore-footed in the muddy lots and were forced to go to market. A profit is not actually pocketed until the last sheep has gone over the scales and the balance struck on the entire season's feeding operations.

with the pulp. Ryan finds screenings a cheap feed to add to the pulp for a short time before shipping. He feeds about $\frac{3}{4}$ pound per head a day for about ten days to two weeks before marketing, feeding it right on the pulp. He has satisfied himself that the sheep gain more, their flesh is firmer, and they ship with far less shrinkage. He has also used cotton cake a little; he recalled a bunch of yearling wethers which he fed one-tenth pound a day and made a gain of thirty pounds per head. Snyder is feeding a bunch of wethers about a quarter pound of corn, and perhaps a little more, and expects to make them good in about 60 days, and put on close



Lambs Eating From a Pile of Pulp.

the sheep eat, but he must put that pulp inside shortly after it drops along the panel, or it is frozen, and then it is wasted, or worse. For a little accumulated or frozen pulp soon requires labor to put it out of the way. And then the stormy day, with snow, wind and cold occasionally occurs. Then the sheep want hay and little pulp; on a real bad day they do not even see the pulp. It is watching the sheep and knowing how to meet their appetites best and most economically that puts the balance on the right side of the ledger.

The largest feeder at Billings is Harry Snyder. He has only been at it

Both these feeders are progressive and alive to anything that looks like better methods or more money. Snyder especially is of an experimental turn of mind. He has fed lambs on corn and alfalfa in these lots; (he is favored by a stream of running water on one side of his pens), and he made some great gains on a bunch last year. He is trying dried beet pulp on a small lot this year, for it is rumored that the factory is figuring on installing an evaporator to dry the pulp, and he wants to know if he can feed the dried article profitably.

Both Ryan and Snyder have been and still are experimenting with grain fed

to a thirty-pound gain. With his lambs he is also feeding about a quarter pound of corn for two or three weeks before shipping. These men consider that the grain increases the gain at very small cost and makes the fat stuff ship and show up better on the market—for it is no short ship to the Missouri river or Chicago.

There are naturally many other feeders here, but their methods are essentially as described, although few of them feed any grain. Pulp feeding as now practiced at beet sugar factories is a speculative proposition, the success of which depends much on the market and the skill of the feeder. The

latter must be a good buyer, a good judge of both feeders and fat stuff, know when his sheep are fat and ready to go to market, keep the tops culled out and sent in; in short, he must know all angles of the game. From the very conditions surrounding the business he must buy everything used. At the time of our visit Snyder was buying alfalfa hay at \$16 per ton delivered in the alleys. He gets no return from the manure, and this fact alone shows that a valuable by-product of the business practically goes to waste, a condition which can only obtain in a new country, where there is no apparent realization of the fact that soils wear out and there is no replisher so valuable as good manure.

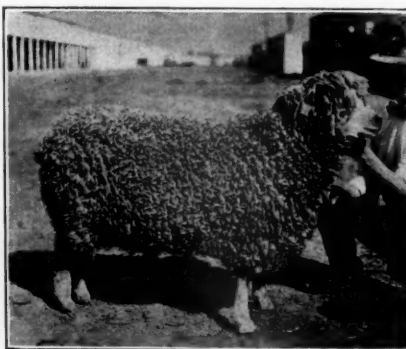
We have noted that the factory is considering the drying of the pulp, and the reason for this is interesting. They have found that the beet raisers are practically mining their lands when they send their beets to the factory and put nothing back on the land. Yields are decreasing. When these farmers raise hay they bring it to these feed-lots, and practically all their crops are sold off the farm. The factory people figure that if they can put this pulp in such form that it can be economically sent back to the farm whence it came they can maintain their beet production. As it is farmers feed no live stock; they put no fertilizer back on the soil, and the land soon deteriorates so that they can not profitably raise beets. This concentrated feeding is all right for the men who know how and do it, but it is not a good thing in the long run unless the fertilizer value of the operation can be put to its best use, viz.: to build up the land which produced the hay and the beets put into these sheep. As yet this has not been done. It would seem as if there was an opportunity for the factory to devise some means whereby they could send back this manure instead of the pulp, and do it more economically than they can by returning the pulp.

However, we learn that a factory in the Scotts Bluffs country this last year dried the pulp, mixed the syrup, which

is another by-product, with the pulp during the process of drying, and shipped this sugar-coated sawdust to feeders in various sections. If this dried pulp and molasses can be profitably shipped or sent out to the beet raisers, and they can convert the roughage products of their lands into manufactured meat on the hoof and put the manure back on their land it would seem as if they had a manufacturing establishment equipped and maintained at its maximum efficiency.

MR. COFFIN IN CHINA.

I received your letter of introduction to the Japanese agriculturist at Tokio, Japan, but was sorry to miss him on arrival here.



Champion Cotswold Ewe, Utah State Fair
Bred by Deseret Sheep Co., Boise, Idaho.

We have had a pleasant trip so far, and expect to leave for Australia by Nikko Maurn the 18th of February, and after two weeks there we will go to Auckland, New Zealand, where I wish you would send me the December, January and February Wool Growers. The weather was such that we did not see or learn much of the wool industry in Japan and China. However, while in Mukden, Manchuria, and Pekin, North China, I learned that there was a considerable number of sheep in the East Hills. I saw quite a lot from the cars and examined several lots in and around Pekin. They raise a rather leggy, light-wooled sheep with a wide, fat tail, larger than your two fists. The sheep are narrow and weigh about eighty pounds when full grown

and shear about four pounds. Although it was Christmas time the sheep were very fat, those in the market having three-fourths of an inch of tallow covering their ribs. They dress out very heavy, perhaps owing to the big, fat, heavy tail. Their skins are tanned and made into clothing.

The natives told me that they lost a lot of sheep by wild animals, and I don't doubt it, as these towns are full of furs, leopard, tiger, etc., some of which we purchased with an assortment of silks and curios to take home with us.

I have seen lots of good grass in the rough country and believe there are some splendid opportunities for the sheep business in China. The great bulk of the population flocks to and around the big cities, where they nearly starve (lots do). One trouble in running sheep in China would be the Chinese themselves. In the wild regions there are thieves and brigands, and one would have to have a small army to guard his stock. Some day some good shearing stock will be brought in here, and this will be a great sheep country, but not until the Chinese are under better control.

I had a long talk with N. A. Tye, an educated Chinaman from Prineville and The Dalles, Oregon. Old-timers there will remember him. He knows all the old woolmen. He gave me a lot of good information on the country conditions. He asked me "How much you get wool?" I told him now 30 to 35 cents. "In U. S. A.," he said, "now my old friends get very rich; they got 12 cents a pound when I was there fifteen years ago."

I am figuring on some good sheep from New Zealand and will write you conditions from there and Australia. I will meet you with some good New Zealand stuff at the Salt Lake Sale.

H. STANLEY COFFIN,
Washington.

Many of our members have as yet neglected to pay their dues. We feel that with present wool and lamb prices every one could afford to do his share.

The Sheep Trade Outlook

By W. A. MINER, Greeley, Colorado.

THERE is one class of men which is never entitled to credence. I refer to the fellow who holds the theory that when things are going up, meaning prices, there is no possibility of a reaction. On breaks, you will find him wedded to the idea that things have gone to the damnation bow-wows for all time. He lives within the hour. If he has actually had experience, he never utilizes it. His vision is about as wide as his face and does not extend beyond the tip of his nose. He is an uncompromising booster in periods of prosperity, an unconstructible calamity howler when things do not go the right way as they have a habit of doing at intervals.

Our own idea is that this is a time to chart a close-to-shore course. If a squall occurs, I want to be close in so that I may scramble ashore. It is the fellow who gets out of swimming depth in an insecure craft who does the most "holing" when his boat is upset. Nothing herein contained is to be construed as a danger signal or a calamity howl, but I insist that it is time for a display of caution.

In Colorado, feeders have had their third successive profitable season. How profitable this one has been cannot be stated until the balance sheet has been prepared, that cannot be figured until feed lots have been cleared. An erroneous method of reckoning results is to take measurement by a few early shipments that made big gains. I did that one season and imagined I was gliding down an avenue

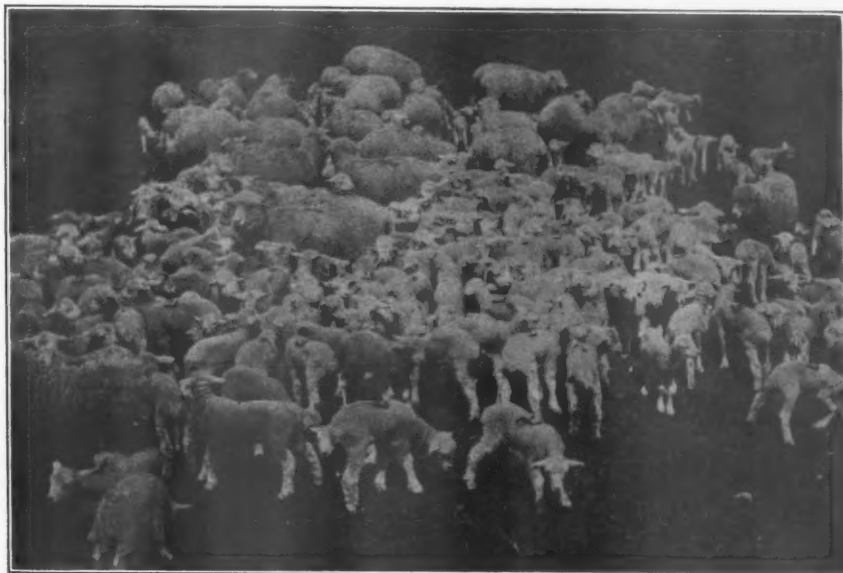
to wealth when, as a matter of fact, the sheriff was treading on my coat-tails.

At present one can hear all kinds of profit yarns. Northern Colorado papers are printing yards of this stuff. Bill Jones, for instance, has cleaned up a fabulous sum, whereas Bill has merely topped out a few loads that made big gains on a short feed. The rest of his stuff will not make anything like the same returns and unless Bill is an amateur, he will wait until he has cleaned up to make an inventory. If

most bands represent that expenditure. Not many years ago, $1\frac{3}{4}$ @ $2\frac{1}{4}$ cents per day was the feeder's cost of carrying. We have shipped lambs by the million from northern Colorado feed lots that did not cost more than 2 cents per day to carry. Labor, hay, corn, and everything else the feeder uses has soared in value. At the feeding stations, a similar condition exists. A few years ago, screenings were worth \$10 a ton; this year \$28 is the price and the stuff has little feeding value at that.

Feeding lambs are going to be high; just how high remains to be seen. The contracting season is starting off with a skyrocket atmosphere, some lambs having been sold at \$10, but that there is an element of danger in it will not be denied. A year ago, the season started at \$6.85 @7.25 and went so high that it was necessary to get a ladder to discern the prices. This season no such advance is possible. A

Denver man who cleaned up a lot of money by making early contracts last year told me the other day that his only excuse for paying \$10 this year was that he was working on velvet. He evidently believes that he will be able to put it over, and in any case, he cannot lose more than a part of his profits. The trade is likely to be in the hands of the "big-wad guys." Should anything happen, and trouble always comes out of an apparently clear sky, few could afford to be caught in the driftwood. The speculator's profits on the 1917 lamb crop will naturally be less than on the last and I



Lambs Continue to Play Regardless of Prices.

early picking warranted an estimate of profits, Northern Colorado would have enough money to start a chain of national banks, but nothing is more deceptive than the figures on tops. Such lambs make big weights at small feed bills; it is the slow gaining end of the crop running into a long feed bill that determines the color of ink to be used on the balance sheet.

Cost of making gains has never been anywhere near as high as this season. When an expenditure of $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 6 cents is necessary to carry a lamb, the path of the feeder is less easy than appears on the surface and tops of

am not saying that he will not get through sound in the region of the pocketbook, but it is no cinch.

Colorado stuff will be in early. January topping out was heavier than ever before, owing to the feed bill and the lure of high prices; the February movement was large and March will see a big hole made in the supply. Very little has gone on feed during the winter, as it was impossible to buy thin lambs. Last year, the good January and February market stimulated feeding operations. Montana was scoured for thin lambs, and the bloom disappeared later in consequence of heavier receipts at the end of the season than would have been the case otherwise, but this year it has been impossible to get them even by paying prohibitive prices. Lambs at \$12 in Montana means \$15 at Chicago, and the feeder paying the price took a long chance. He was willing, however, but could not get the lambs. This means a bare spot and a high market after Colorado has shot its wad. I expect to see commission houses paying the photographer a bill; they always do when they make outstanding records and something of that nature is about to happen.

We have witnessed big prices this season, but the packer has been on the job as usual. The only stick they had to use on the feeders' back was Colorado buying. This is a bright idea, and you cannot blame the packer for putting it into execution. If the feeder plays the packer's game, he has only himself to blame. By purchasing in Colorado and forwarding east the packer simply avoids competition. Many of our feeders cannot see it that way, but eventually they will wake up. They have been making so much money that they have not missed the dollar a hundred the packer has maneuvered for and taken out of them. Whenever a packer buys live stock at a point where he does not kill it, he has a reason and the advantage gained is his, not that of the man he buys the stuff from. By getting a lot of lambs at Denver and scattering them all over the map for slaughter, packers have

made a lot of money this season at the expense of the feeder. They designed this method of buying to prevent the market from getting away from them. Money one never had is never missed, but had the packer lure been ignored, we would have had a \$15 market this winter.

The business is on a healthy basis and if we run into trouble, the boosters will be responsible. That the 1917 lamb crop will be short admits of no doubt and a high lamb market is a certainty, but the thing can be overdone. Production of both wool and mutton is far below requirements, and nothing can possibly be cheap, which includes the feed bill.



Yearling Rambouillet Ram Bred by Baldwin Sheep & Land Co., Hay Creek, Oregon.

45c OFFERED IN MONTANA.

During the past two weeks, some wool has been contracted in Montana at prices ranging up to 41 cents. The latter price has been paid for Dillon wool, but in that section most of the growers have set the asking price at around 45 cents. In eastern Montana, several clips have been sold at 40 cents. The Simonsen clip at Billings is reported sold at 40 cents, but many think 42 cents was paid for it. The Davis & Williams clip at Deer Lodge, all fine wool, is sold at 40 cents. The Gillette Sheep Company of Cascade has refused an offer of 45 cents and the Work Sheep Company of Bozeman has refused 44 cents for the largest clip in the state.

FROM EASTERN MONTANA.

For several years I have been reading the National Wool Grower and always thought it was the greatest paper of its kind in the United States. My cousin, Mr. P. C. Dreyer, who has been a member of the National Wool Growers Association for a good many years, has urged me to become a subscriber of the National Wool Grower and to join the association, but as that did not help, he sent in a dollar to pay for one year for the paper for me, and I was one of your most careful readers. This year, he sent me a kind letter asking me again to send in \$5 and become a member of the association. He has done his share, and I am very thankful, as I can easily feel how lost I would be the first month the National Wool Grower kept away. I am enclosing \$5, membership fee to the National Wool Growers Association.

A hard winter set in a month earlier than usual this year. This December was the coldest that month has been for at least fourteen years. January has been cold and stormy, and we are having a lot of snow and crust.

I am wintering nearly 2,000 ewes and lambs. I put up sixty tons of prairie hay and raised sixty tons of oat hay. I have been feeding ever since the 12th of January. These sheep are in fairly good condition with feed enough to last them all through February. I am hoping for a change in the weather by that time or earlier.

The shortage of range, which is all settled by dry-landers with the exception of the railroad land, which is giving us our last slim chance with sheep, and the big prices on sheep last fall nearly cleaned out that industry in this vicinity.

Mr. Coyote is getting a mutton out of our flocks now and then. We were used to that and didn't worry until a three-legged one killed seventy of Mrs. P. C. Dreyer's poultry; then there was no help for him; he had to die.

LAURITZ DRYER, Montana.

Every month our subscription list creeps up a little.

Trade Conditions and Prospects

By JAMES E. POOLE.

UNLESS something happens, a high set of April and May live mutton markets is certain. Winter feed lots are being depleted rapidly. Iowa cleaned up in January, by the end of March both northern Colorado and the Scotts Bluff country in Nebraska will have parted with the bulk of holdings and elsewhere there is little to be had. The stuff coming out of Montana to be put on feed at the big stations around Chicago is not worth considering. A mere handful of stuff has gone through Chicago to Michigan and Ohio since the turn of the year. Wisconsin is empty and outside of Montgomery and Kirkland, the feeding stations have little. Buffalo has virtually been off the map as a sheep market all winter, and if stuff direct to packers had been deducted from Chicago receipts that market would have made a less creditable showing. The \$15 lamb has not cut a wide swath this winter, but possibilities later in the season are immense. During January and February, prices facilitated feed lot depletion, but that process is not interminable.

Advices from the Middle South are that expectancy in packing circles of a big crop of spring lambs from Tennessee and Kentucky will not materialize. A cold, dry winter has been against the lamb raiser; ewes had no flow of milk and lambs have succumbed by the thousand. Wheat pasture did not exist in many localities, and growers down that way rarely make provision for other feed. If nature favors them, they do well; otherwise they accept results with fatalistic resignation. Elsewhere in the lamb raising country east of the Missouri, a similar condition ex-

ists. More ewes were bred than last year, but the number of lambs raised will be smaller. One reason for the high market this winter was the fact that native lambs were not to be had, less than 10 per cent of the run at Chicago being of that variety. The Western grower is assured of high prices as long as this condition exists. Swapping ewes in the country at high prices is not an effective method of relieving shortage.

All reports from the West indicate a light lamb crop. Wyoming and Mon-

range country further east, and the prospect in Oregon and Washington is not bright, but the Southwest has been dry, which means a light lamb crop always, and it is a safe prediction that the 1917 lamb crop will be small enough to warrant the highest prices on record. Prediction is made of a \$15@16 market for spring lambs and early Idaho stuff will find a warm reception. The public appears to be able to eat the stuff regardless of cost, and the pelt market is constantly working to higher levels, lamb pelts selling at \$4 and heavy sheep pelts at \$5.

April and May will witness a high set of markets. Colorado and Nebraska will have unloaded the bulk of their holdings a month hence, and packers will no longer be able to hold the thing down. Few sheep or lambs have been put in during the winter and no movement of thin stuff is possible, owing to scarcity and prohibitive prices. Little is being held at the big feeding stations and shearing will be on a limited scale. Everybody in the trade is confident



Lincoln Ewes in the Lambing Shed of F. R. Gooding, Gooding, Idaho.

tana have and are suffering severely. Estimates on losses range from 15 to 20 per cent. This, of course, will be disputed, but commission house correspondence is strongly confirmatory. Naturally those who are buying wool or contracting lambs would conceal the facts, but early-bought lambs already show substantial profit and the longer wool has been held the more money it has realized. Muddy fleeces taken off at shearing stations near Chicago have made 44 cents and the trend is upward. Idaho promises to have a normal lamb crop, being in a position to carry flocks through the winter better than open

of a supply gap in April and May.

Feeders are cleaning up early. Regulars by the score in Kansas, Iowa, Missouri, and Nebraska, who usually do not empty feed lots until late in March made final shipments early in February and market atmosphere is churned with big profit talk. Lambs bought on the range a year ago as low as \$7 have done a phenomenal stunt. Feeders put in during the regular season last fall at \$9.75@10.25 sold during January at \$12.75@14.00 and during February at \$14.00@14.75 with a few up to \$15. Thousands of lambs have scored profits of \$2@4 per head.

The feed bill has been high, but weather conditions were excellent and gains have been substantial.

Iowa has had the most profitable season in the history of the mutton finishing business in that state. As cattle feeders have also made money, results are attracting less attention than last year, but it will add to the popularity of lamb feeding and materially increase demand for feeders. Already Iowa operators are taking time by the forelock and making arrangement for their fall requirements. It means additional competition for Colorado feeders as no cheaper method of finishing than running Western stock in cornfields has ever been devised, and will further contract the volume of winter feeding in territory east of Chicago.

While cost of putting gains on sheep and lambs has never been as heavy, that gain has been eligible to more money than ever before, consequently cost of thin stock cuts little figure. An Iowa farmer who fed 5,000 lambs this season figured that at \$10 per hundredweight, he would have realized good money for his feed and had the manure for profit. The flock averaged \$14.25 so that results may be imagined. This is one reason why there will be little haggling over the price of feeding lambs next season. What will concern the average operator most will be securing possession of the stock.

The wool prospect is not to be disguised. In clothing circles, the outlook is serious. Garment makers are getting quotations on cloth that are not good thirty minutes subsequent to being made. A Chicago man recently decided to put \$10,000 into stock in anticipation of a rise. He delayed a few days studying prices quoted and then decided to buy, only to discover that he had run into a 10 per cent advance. Fabrics are deteriorating in quality and foresighted people are buying clothing while the buying is good. An indication of the healthy condition of the wool market is afforded by the sale of 20,000 fleeces of the Parham take-off at Montgomery, Illinois, late in February at 44 cents. This wool was

muddy and in any case feed lot shearing usually sells 3@4 cents under Western wool owing to the dirt it carries.

Packers are indulging in seasonal complaint over excessive weight of lambs, but the trade might as well reconcile itself now as ever to the fact that the old-style scrawny Mexican lamb is out of date. The Colorado run has carried a large percentage of lambs weighing ninety pounds, or more, this season, and they have sold at \$14.00@14.25 per hundredweight. Being big gainers, they have netted excellent results. The old-style Mexican was merely a high dresser. It never was a choice lamb. Even southern stuff shows marked improvement, New Mexican lambs now frequently weighing ninety pounds. Care and breeding is steadily increasing the weight of



Hampshire Ewes of J. R. Spencer, Wendell, Ida.

northern-bred lambs, and the time is not far away when one hundred pounders will be the rule. The day of the seventy to seventy-five pound Mexican has passed.

Old-timers in the trade are raking up reminiscence. With double decks of lambs netting around \$3,000 per load, it is not difficult to hark back to the period where the shipper was gratified if his stuff produced any net result. Thousands of loads of sheep and lambs have sold on Western markets that did not net to exceed \$100 and your Simon-pure old-timer likes to regale his audience with reminiscences of the period when sheep were skinned for their pelts, the meat having little of no value, and 50 cents per head was considered a good price for an old ewe.

It has been a great season for the ewe feeder. Female stock put in last fall at \$5.50@6.00 per hundredweight has been discharged from the feed lot to earn \$10.50@11.50 at the market and a considerable number of fat ewes have realized \$12. This condition has attracted pregnant ewes to market, a practice that is reprehensible and deserving of prohibition. Ewes, however, are incapable of making the same gains as lambs and handlers of young stock have had maximum results, the profit being always found in the gain.

As a rule feeders have been stingy with feed. Sometimes this has been due to necessity, but the rule has been to stint the ration, which is questionable policy when gain realizes big money. Some good feeders have made this mistake, but had the satisfaction that they put on cheap gains even if maximum results were not reached. It has meant a much smaller mutton tonnage for the packer and less meat for the consumer. An Ohio man with a reputation as a feeder took out a band of sixty-pound yearlings at \$8.50 last fall. In February, he returned them to market at practically the same weight, another feeder taking them at \$12.50. Had he fed properly the stuff would have been worth \$13 to a killer, but his theory was that he would be mulcted to the extent of the board bill. A good feeder market has furnished half-fat stuff with excellent competition, insuring a narrow spread.

1916 MUTTON IMPORTS.

Mutton and lamb imports in 1916 aggregated 16,706,667 pounds, having a value of \$1,458,002. The previous year 10,106,000 pounds, valued at \$939,357 were imported. In 1914, the first year of free trade, imports were 18,600,000 pounds, valued at \$1,708,918.

Sheep imports were 124,082, valued at \$650,198, mostly Mexican stock ewes. The previous year 261,063 head, valued at \$933,504, entered the country.

\$5.00 pays your dues to the National Wool Growers' Association for one year. Now is the time to join.

The Hampshire Sheep

By W. C. COFFEY.

THE Hampshire breed originated on the rolling, chalky, light land of south central England in the county of Hampshire, the southern border of which touches the English channel. Early in the nineteenth century the Southdown, as improved by Ellman, was extensively used by the farmers in the general region of Hampshire for crossing on the old Wiltshire and Berkshire Knot breeds. The old Wiltshires have been described as white-faced, large, imposing-looking animals with long legs, high withers, sharp spines, big heads, Roman noses, and curling horns. Their wool was moderately fine and the fleeces from ewe flocks averaged from two to two and one-half pounds. Originally they were kept primarily for their wool and dung. They were well adapted to folding on the arable land and to traveling out two or three miles each day for their feed on the closely cropped downs. Before the introduction of Southdown blood, the Wilts farmers were increasing the size and improving the conformation of the Wiltshire to such extent that they were accused of breeding for beauty and not for utility.

With the exception of dark faces and legs, the Berkshire Knots resembled the Wiltshires.

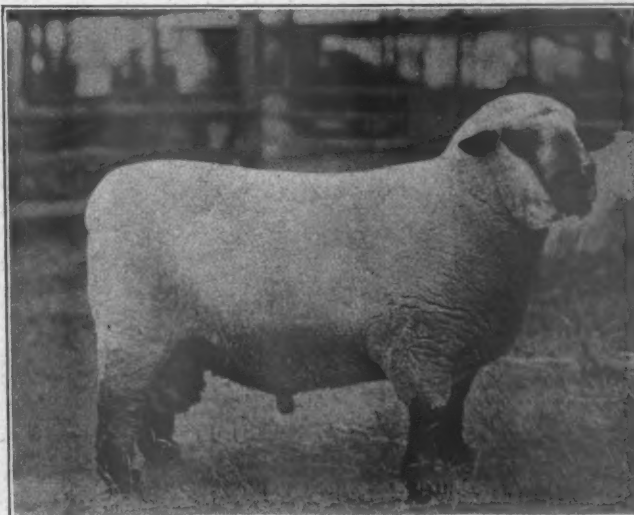
In many cases pure Southdowns replaced the native sheep of both Wiltshire and Hampshire and crossing with Southdowns became so general that the native types were merged into the old Hampshire, a sort of modified Southdown, but not sufficiently uniform in type to deserve the distinction of being called a breed. According to James Rawlence, the last flock of the old Wiltshire horned breed disappeared about 1819. Probably the Southdown, with its superior quality and attractive character would have

entirely replaced the old breeds had it not been that Wiltshire and Hampshire farmers awakened to the indispensable value of the hardiness, early maturity, and large size which the flocks carrying some of the blood of the old sheep possessed.

The value of these characteristics became apparent not long after the Down lands were enclosed, treated with artificial manures and planted to such crops as turnips, rape, vetches, clover, rye, and Italian rye grass. These crops, secured at considerable expense, had to be fed to sheep capable

best of the old Hampshire Down ewes, then known as West Country Downs, and mating them with Southdown rams from the flock of Jonas Webb. His method of procedure is well brought out in his historic communication to W. C. Spooner in 1859.

"About twenty-five years since, in forming my flock, I purchased the best Hampshire or West Country Down ewes I could meet with. Some of them I obtained from the late Mr. G. Budd, Mr. William Pain, Mr. Digweed, and other eminent breeders, giving 40 shillings, when ordinary ewes were making 33 shillings, and using the best rams I could get of the same kind until the Oxford Show of the Royal Agricultural Society. On examining the different breeds exhibited there, I found the Cotswolds were beautiful in form and of great size; and, on making inquiries as to how they were brought to such perfection, I was informed that a Leicester ram was coupled to some of the largest Cotswold ewes, and the most robust of the produce was selected for use. The thought then struck me that my best plan would be to obtain a first-rate Sussex



Hampshire Type.

of handling large quantities of rank forage and of turning off big wether lambs rather than yearling or two-year-old wethers.

By 1835 Hampshire sheep, according to Wrightson, had taken their general form, but there yet remained the task of reducing them to a uniform type with the power of transmitting their characters regularly to their offspring. In this work Mr. Humphrey of Oak Ash, near Wantage, Berks, led to the extent that he is generally given the credit of giving the breed its present character and position. He attained his success by carefully selecting what in his judgment were the

Down sheep to put to my larger Hampshire Down ewes, both being the short-wooled breed. With this object I wrote to Mr. Jonas Webb to send me one of his best sheep, and he sent me a shearling by his favorite sheep Babraham. I went down the next two years, and selected for myself; but the stock did not suit my taste so well as the one he sent me, and I did not use them. I then commissioned him to send me the sheep which obtained the first prize at Liverpool, and from these two sheep, the first and the last, by marking the lambs of each tribe as they fell, then coupling them together at the third and fourth generation,

my present flock was made."

Some time after Mr. Humphrey began his work he drafted twenty-five ewes from a purchase of one hundred, made in conjunction with his neighbor, Mr. Rawlance. This was the only time he introduced outside blood through females. Before using any of his rams extensively he tested them on a selected few of his ewes and if they did not breed to suit him, they were sent to the butcher. His greatest difficulty was the loss of size which was overcome by regularly disposing of his smallest ewes. In fact, his skill as a breeder was due in large part to his diligence in weeding out animals that did not promise to contribute to the end he had in view. After his death in 1868 his flock was sold at auction. Mr. James Rawlence of Bulbridge, who from time to time purchased stock of Mr. Humphrey, proved to be a worthy successor as a leader in still further improving and promoting the breed. In founding his flock his method was just the opposite of that of Mr. Humphrey; he selected Southdowns for his female stock and mated them with Hampshire rams.

Amongst Hampshire breeders most of the rams in flock service are lambs and the belief that the early maturity of the breed has been brought about by the consistent continuance of this practice is prevalent. That it has been a contributing cause is altogether likely, but E. P. Squarey and J. E. Rawlence, in their history of the Hampshire Down as it appears in the first volume of the English Society, maintain that early maturity was characteristic of the old Wiltshire.

(To be Continued.)

COYOTES ABOUT GONE.

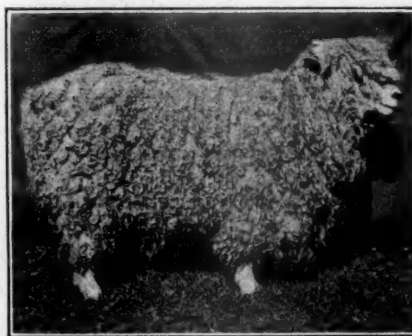
In the Twin Falls country, Idaho, the coyotes are very scarce. A few years ago, they bothered us greatly, but I think the rabies has killed most of them off. We have had rabies among our Idaho coyotes now for two years, and it has certainly been the most effective weapon in fighting the coyote.

CLYDE BACON, Idaho.

OREGON LINCOLNS FOR IDAHO

Mr. F. R. Gooding of Gooding, Idaho, recently contracted with William Riddell & Son of Williamette Valley, Oregon, for 150 head of Lincoln and Cotswold ram lambs to be delivered August 1. These will be used as stud rams in the Gooding flock. Last year the Riddell Lincolns were purchased by the Butterfield Live Stock Company, and the year before, part of them were taken by J. R. Allen & Brother, so that for three years at least these Riddell Lincolns have come into the range country.

Several years ago Mr. Riddell imported a Lincoln ram from New Zealand; then two years later he imported another. These New Zealand rams were crossed on his English Lincoln ewes, so that today practically all the



A New Zealand Lincoln Ewe.

flock are carrying from 50 to 75 per cent New Zealand blood.

The New Zealand Lincoln carries, we should estimate, about 30 per cent more wool than our American Lincoln, and they are much shorter legged, and their heads are as well covered with wool as any Cotswold. We think all these features are desirable, and no doubt account for the popularity of Riddell Lincolns in the range country.

Last year the Wood Live Stock Company of Spencer, Idaho, imported from New Zealand 100 head of Lincoln range rams for use on Merino ewes. This company is much pleased with them, and last November purchased 60 head of New Zealand Lincoln ewes, but has not as yet succeeded in getting these ewes out of New Zealand

and may not be able to do so for some time. On account of war, space on the boats between New Zealand and San Francisco is very limited, and no sheep will be accepted unless contracts for space are made a long time in advance. In addition to lack of space, freight rates, insurance, and every shipping expense has nearly doubled. After the war closes, we anticipate a considerable trade in Lincolns between this country and New Zealand, and this will be largely the result of a speech made at the National Wool Growers' convention by Mr. Edmund Clifton of New Zealand, who happened to be in this country at that time.

ANOTHER STOCK SHOW.

At the Union Stock Yards, Salt Lake City, Utah, there will be held a fat stock show on April 4, 5 and 6. About \$1,000 in premiums are to be given at this show. Premiums have been offered for fat cattle, fat sheep and swine. It is anticipated that seventy-five carloads of stock will be on hand. The people behind the show extend a cordial invitation to all stockmen to attend this first show.

This paper offers a special premium of \$50.00 for the best carload of fat lambs.

WOOL SELLING IN WYOMING.

Since the last issue of this paper, a considerable volume of wool has changed hands in Wyoming under contract, the highest price paid being 42½ cents. This was paid for a light cross-bred clip belonging to Patsy Hailey of Buffalo, Wyoming. Most of the prices paid in Wyoming have hovered around the 40-cent mark. In the Cokeville section, considerable wool has sold at 40 cents, and the same is true of the Evanston country. At Fossil, Wyoming, 41½ cents has been refused by Mr. Marsden for a light quarter-blood clip. We estimate that about 20 per cent of Wyoming wool has been sold, but that which remains is being strongly held.

Future of Wool Growing In Australia

By R. H. HARROWELL

THE Editor has asked for an article on the future of the Australian Pastoral Industry, and I am sure he does not want a highly colored one-sided prophesy, but an honest attempt to gauge the possibilities of this great extent of country. This is rather a presumptuous task for an ordinary individual to undertake, but all of us who have our interest wrapped in the pastoral industry, have allowed our minds to dwell upon the prospects of problems which lie ahead, and it is as one of these individuals that I write.

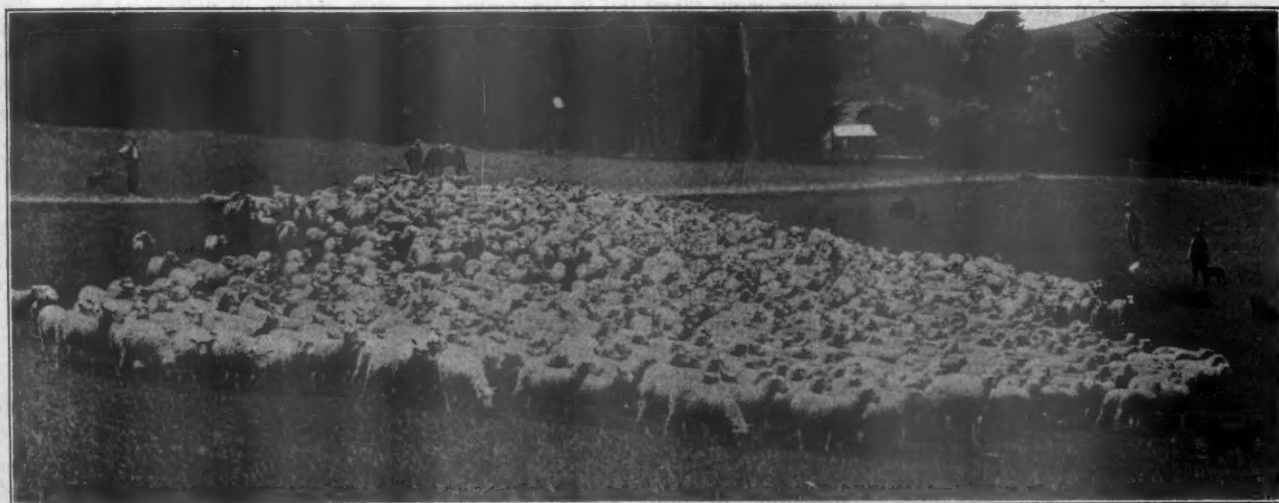
It is first necessary to comprehend the size of the Australian common-

of establishing large flocks and herds. Agriculture and manufactures are equally out of the question. If we take a maximum average annual rainfall of 15 inches per annum we find that we include an area of 1,778,300 square miles or close on 60 per cent of the whole commonwealth. This 60 per cent of Australia is naturally waterless country. Those portions of it which are carrying stock are watered by surface tanks, or artesian bores, or sub-artesian wells, pumped by windmills. There are no permanent water courses, and it is a practical certainty that these natural obstacles cannot be overcome

of Australia is under consideration this is practically the whole area worthy of consideration, and it must be further considered that even from this area must be subtracted a great stretch of tropical country and isolated territory, where conditions are all against the building up of a dense population, or the establishment of industries employing much labor.

Therefore, big as Australia is, we are forced to cut off nearly three-quarters of its vastness before obtaining the area wherein it is reasonable to expect much development to take place.

The pastoral industry pioneered



Range Ewes In New Zealand.

wealth. It comprises 2,974,581 miles of territory, a vast extent, and, one would think, capable of containing a vast population. But when one comes to investigate climatic conditions we are forced to wonder if Australia will ever carry the teeming millions her size appears to justify.

Of the total area above mentioned 1,140,830 square miles have an average rainfall of not more than 10 inches per annum. In other words over 38 per cent of Australia has an average of not more than 10 inches of rain per annum.

These conditions do not favor the building up of a big population or even

without the aid of some miraculous discovery. We cannot therefore reasonably expect a very dense population or a great volume of production for 60 per cent of Australia. Permanent production in great volumes cannot be looked for in the country with a maximum of fifteen inches annual rainfall. We are, therefore, left with a little over 40 per cent of the area of Australia with a rainfall sufficient to encourage the hopes of permanent settlement and development—that is the area with a rainfall of between 15 and 30 inches. The exact size of the area embracing this rainfall is 884,799 square miles, so that when the progress

Australia. It has been the mainspring of all development, and it is the greatest asset at the present time. Much of the hinterland was pioneered by cattle till fences and railways made sheep farming possible. Then, in their turn sheep had to give way to agriculture in localities suited to that industry, and so the purely pastoral industry has been retiring from the coast toward the interior. In the endeavor to hasten the closer settlement of the areas served with railways many mistakes have been made, and agriculture has been attempted upon land that has had eventually to revert to sheep. But wherever soil and climatic conditions

have suited agriculture, the pastoral industry has gone never to reappear. This is only as it should be, and the progress that can be looked for is the pushing out, here and there, of the wheat belt wherever soil and climate render the industry of wheat growing fairly safe—but there is a climatic barrier to that industry, and beyond that barrier the pastoral industry is safe for all time, as far as we can see at present. From the extremity of the wheat belt to the center of Australia, with the exception of present or future mineral outcrops, the pastoral industry will reign supreme. It will embrace a tract of country ranging from an annual average of 20 inches down to 5 inches, and the industry will become attenuated as the rainfall decreases. Very little in the way of stock raising can be expected in the 10-inch rainfall area, and, as we have seen, this comprises over 1,000,000 square miles.

We can only hope for some miraculous discovery to evolve means of developing this dead heart of Australia—the 10 to 5-inch rainfall zone. With means at present at our disposal we can only look for progress where natural conditions render the investment of capital reasonably safe. This practically means that future pastoral progress will depend more upon the better utilization of country at present in use rather than the breaking in of new pastoral territory.

The subject, therefore, resolves itself into the question: Can the area at present devoted to the pastoral industry be rendered more productive? And the attempt to answer this question absolutely compels us to consider industrial conditions which have a very material bearing upon pastoral expansion.

The back country of Australia was pioneered and broken in by men who had the courage to risk their capital in that work. They felt sure that a reward awaited their efforts, and the success so many achieved blazed the trail for others to follow. In this way, the land was cleared and fenced, and railways were rendered possible and huge towns and cities sprang up and

Australia became a country of substance.

The few people scattered over the vast pastoral areas out back provide the wealth that is distributed in the big centers of population and these centers have grown so out of proportion to the rural population that the man who has invested his capital in the pastoral industry is, to all intents and purposes, disfranchised. The one-man one-vote franchise—in Australia—means that the big centers of population, the towns and cities, completely out-vote the rural population. The station owner may employ ten or twenty men. With labor so organized as it is at present this means that the station owner is out-voted by 20 to 1. The operation of this fact has resulted in power being taken out of the hands of those who produce the wealth of Australia into the hands of those who simply exist on account of that production.

The consequence is those engaged in the pastoral industry receive little or no consideration from the various parliaments elected by the people. On the contrary, the work of the pastoralist is so little understood and appreciated by the politician brought to the surface by the one-man one-vote franchise, that he is more often than not persecuted as a land monopolist, and is made the target for taxation, and importunities from organized labor.

Labor is so organized now, on the principle of high wages and short hours, that development work in the country is rendered almost prohibitive. The only way the area at present devoted to the pastoral industry could be developed and rendered more productive is by effecting improvements, such as ring-barking, burning off timber, rabbit destruction, fencing, increasing sources of water supply, storing forage in times of plenty for use in drought, and other similar work. All these undertakings require labor, and the present attitude of labor is such that land owners will not embark upon work of this description if they can possibly avoid it.

There was a time when the freehold title carried with it a feeling of secur-

ity, which encouraged the owner to develop his property to its utmost capacity. But the Australian governments, elected by the cities and the towns have destroyed the old-time confidence in freehold. If a man develops his property, and, looking to the future, spends a lot of money upon it, he is simply arousing the envy of the voters in the neighboring towns, which means courting an agitation for the compulsory resumption of his property. Then again freehold property in Australia is subject to very exorbitant taxation, which ignores interest and overdrafts, and, which practically means that the freeholder pays a rent to the crown for the privilege of owning his land.

With leasehold property, there is the same feeling of insecurity of tenure—and even if leases are not repudiated, the leaseholder is made to pay taxes which many charges upon the property he never contemplated when he took up the lease.

The great pastoral industry of Australia is governed by that section of the community which is entirely ignorant of all matters affecting land and live stock. If the personal of every government at present in power in each of the six states of the Commonwealth and also the federal government is examined it will be found that the governments are comprised of labor agitators, lawyers, political adventures, a few commercial men, but the pastoral industry is entirely unrepresented. It is, to all intents and purposes disfranchised. Every man and woman in Australia has a vote, but the man on the land is hopelessly outnumbered by the individuals in big centers of population. The pastoralist has not a ghost of a chance of getting his interests considered, and the inevitable is happening. The break is pressing tighter and tighter upon the wheel of progress. The old incentive to develop the back country is disappearing, it is being crushed out. Pastoralists are investing their capital in bricks and mortar in the cities or they are sending huge sums out of the country to South America or elsewhere. At present mil-

lions are going into war loans. Hundreds and thousands of pounds, which in the ordinary course of things would have gone into ring-barking, rabbit destruction, and water supply out back have been diverted into other channels, and the pastoral industry is that much the loser.

This is no one-sided picture that is drawn. The views here expressed would be endorsed by the pastoralists of this country. The conditions described have a direct influence upon the future of the pastoral industry in Australia, and no article upon the subject would be correct without a reference to them. What developed the pastoral industry was the willingness of individuals to invest their money and take their chances with droughts, floods and bush fires, and other natural obstacles. But the franchise has robbed them of any voice in the affairs of the nation, and as a community the pastoralists of Australia are completely overwhelmed by organized labor which makes no secret of its boast to cripple private enterprise whenever it gets the chance, and each year is crowded with an increasing number of attempts to achieve this object. How can a country develop under these conditions? If conditions permitted, not to say encouraged, progress to take its natural course, one could write a very interesting article upon the manner in which the pastoral lands of Australia might be rendered more productive, but as such progress is out of the question under present conditions the subject is not worth dealing with. Australian seasons will oscillate between drought and plenty and the number of sheep and cattle will very accordingly. If the British flag emerges triumphant from this war (as of course it will) the outlook for wool and meat promises to be good. At the present time the pastoralists of Australia are receiving phenomenally high prices for wool and stock, but the recent drought has left a lot of leeway to make up and taxation is most enormous.

Get us a new subscriber.

UTAH WOOLS SOLD.

Only a very small percentage of the 1917 wools in the state of Utah remain unsold. We should say that fully 90 per cent of the clip has been disposed of under contract. The average price of these contracts will range around 37 cents, but the wools that were contracted early sold for from 3 to 4 cents per pound less than is now being paid. The highest price paid in Utah so far has been for the Jeremy clip and is reported as 42 cents. We understand that Thornley Brothers, who usually top the Utah market, have not sold as yet. Most of the Heber wools have sold at 40 cents

its lambs at the railroad to load September 15th, but this company did not sell. In spite of these high offers, most growers have held their lambs.

HAS SETTLED THE COYOTE PROBLEM

We have had a very long winter here, starting about the middle of October, but very fortunately it has been an open winter with just about enough snow for sheep, but it has been quite cold and very windy. Stock as a whole have not wintered quite as well as usual, but there will be no loss unless we get an unusual spring. There has



Black Merino Rams in Australia.

a pound, some of them being taken by parties that also contracted the lambs for fall delivery. The Clyde clip sold at 42 cents and the Nebeker clip at Laketown sold at 41½ cents.

IDAHO LAMBS SOLD.

Almost every sheepman in Idaho has had an offer for his lambs in the last thirty days. Ten and one-half cents has been the regular offer for June and July delivery, while ten cents has been freely offered for August and September delivery. The Wood Live Stock Company has been offered ten dollars and fifty cents per hundredweight for

been very little hay or grain fed here.

The coyotes are very plentiful in this section. Enclosed you will find a picture taken of some sheep thieves, trapped by A. C. Jensen, on my range this winter. This picture represents sixty days' trapping with sixty-four traps. Mr. Jensen sold the furs the next day after the picture was taken, and with \$1 per head for cats and coyotes and \$5 per head for wolves, which I paid him, he realized \$395 for his two months' work and didn't get the state bounty as the state funds were exhausted.

THOMAS F. ARNOLD,
Lusk, Wyoming.

WOOL PRODUCT OF THE UNITED STATES—1916

By National Association of Wool Manufacturers.

Estimate of U. S. Dep't of Agriculture.										
States.	Number of Fleece.	Average		Wool Product	Per cent of		Average Value per Scoured Pound, Oct. 1.		States.	
		Pounds.	Fleece.		Shrinkage	Quantity of Scoured Wool.	1914.			
							Cents.	1915.		
Maine.	130,000	6.5	850,000	41	501,500	48	64	80	\$ 401,200	Maine.
New Hampshire.	28,000	6.6	185,000	42	107,300	47	63	78	83,694	New Hampshire.
Vermont.	78,000	7.4	580,000	48	301,600,600	47	64	81	244,266	Vermont.
Massachusetts.	18,000	6.9	125,000	42	72,500	45	64	80	58,000	Massachusetts.
Rhode Island.	5,000	5.0	25,000	41	14,750	45	64	80	11,800	Rhode Island.
Connecticut.	14,000	5.4	75,000	41	44,250	45	64	80	35,400	Connecticut.
New York.	530,000	6.7	3,550,000	48	1,946,000	44	64	85	1,654,100	New York.
New Jersey.	16,000	5.0	80,000	41	47,200	44	65	85	40,120	New Jersey.
Pennsylvania.	650,000	6.5	4,225,000	51	2,070,250	46	65	87	1,801,118	Pennsylvania.
Delaware.	12,000	6.0	75,000	41	17,700	44	64	80	141,600	Delaware.
Maryland.	129,000	5.8	750,000	41	442,500	42	64	80	354,000	Maryland.
West Virginia.	62,000	5.0	2,750,000	49	1,402,500	48	65	87	1,220,175	West Virginia.
Kentucky.	1,950,000	7.0	13,650,000	52	6,552,000	49	67	86	5,634,720	Kentucky.
Ohio.	1,165,000	7.1	8,275,000	49	4,220,250	44	64	85	3,587,213	Ohio.
Michigan.	650,000	6.8	4,420,000	44	2,475,200	44	64	80	1,980,160	Michigan.
Indiana.	515,000	7.5	3,855,000	47	2,043,150	42	63	81	1,654,952	Indiana.
Illinois.	385,000	7.0	2,895,000	44	1,405,600	43	64	80	1,124,489	Illinois.
Wisconsin.	650,000	7.0	4,875,000	48	2,335,000	44	64	80	1,938,092	Wisconsin.
Iowa.	680,000	6.8	4,625,000	43	2,536,250	44	63	80	2,028,000	Iowa.
Missouri.	9,108,000	6.73	61,255,000	47.5	32,174,400	...	...	...	\$ 36,757,120	Missouri.
Virginia.	378,000	4.5	1,900,000	38	1,054,400	50	64	81	853,740	Virginia.
North Carolina.	135,000	4.2	670,000	40	342,000	47	63	75	256,500	North Carolina.
South Carolina.	24,000	4.0	95,000	40	57,000	47	63	75	42,750	South Carolina.
Georgia.	165,000	3.0	495,000	39	301,350	47	63	76	229,482	Georgia.
Florida.	111,000	3.1	345,000	40	207,000	46	62	75	155,250	Florida.
Alabama.	100,000	3.8	350,000	39	213,500	47	62	75	160,225	Alabama.
Mississippi.	150,000	3.6	540,000	39	329,400	46	62	75	247,050	Mississippi.
Louisiana.	170,000	3.5	350,000	41	206,500	47	62	75	261,075	Louisiana.
Arkansas.	425,000	4.1	350,000	41	206,500	46	64	78	162,810	Arkansas.
Tennessee.	425,000	4.1	350,000	39	1,140,150	50	64	78	889,746	Tennessee.
Kansas.	185,000	7.2	1,330,000	62	505,400	55	61	85	429,590	Kansas.
Nebraska.	230,000	8.0	1,830,000	61	713,700	55	61	85	606,645	Nebraska.
South Dakota.	475,000	7.5	3,560,000	61	1,388,400	55	62	83	1,152,372	South Dakota.
North Dakota.	180,000	7.5	1,350,000	61	526,500	55	62	83	436,995	North Dakota.
Montana.	315,000	7.8	2,470,000	62	9,346,600	57	67	86	8,038,076	Montana.
Wyoming.	3,675,000	8.4	31,000,000	65	10,550,000	55	66	85	9,222,500	Wyoming.
Idaho.	555,000	7.6	15,000,000	62	7,500,000	56	67	85	4,845,000	Idaho.
Washington.	555,000	8.6	4,750,000	67	1,567,500	54	66	84	1,316,700	Washington.
Oregon.	1,760,000	7.5	13,200,000	67	4,356,000	58	66	85	3,702,600	Oregon.
California.	1,850,000	6.3	11,600,000	64	4,176,000	54	65	83	3,468,080	California.
Nevada.	1,340,000	7.5	10,000,000	68	3,200,000	60	67	85	2,720,000	Nevada.
Utah.	2,080,000	7.2	15,000,000	61	5,850,000	55	64	84	4,914,000	Utah.
Colorado.	1,400,000	6.0	8,400,000	60	3,360,000	55	64	83	2,788,800	Colorado.
Arizona.	915,000	6.5	3,950,000	64	2,142,000	56	65	85	1,820,700	Arizona.
New Mexico.	3,200,000	5.7	18,240,000	66	6,201,000	54	63	83	5,147,328	New Mexico.
Texas.	1,800,000	5.7	10,500,000	63	3,792,500	56	63	82	4,109,850	Texas.
Oklahoma.	74,000	6.8	500,000	63	185,000	56	63	82	151,700	Oklahoma.
Totals.	24,849,000	7.10	176,530,000	63.8	63,561,200	...	...	...	\$ 54,868,928	Totals.
Pulled Wool.	35,700,000	6.86	244,890,000	59.1	100,235,750	51.8	65.7	84.6	\$ 84,874,676	Pulled Wool.
Total Product, 1916.	...	...	438,600,000	30	30,520,000	46.9	60.5	75.5	23,042,000	Total Product, 1916.
Average grease value	288,490,000	...	...	...	130,755,750	50.6	64.5	82.5	\$107,916,676	Average grease value
Total Product, 1916.	...	...	...	...	...	21.1	27.2	37.4	...	Total Product, 1916.

The Boston Wool Market

By Our Boston Correspondent.

DEVELOPMENTS of the month in the local wool market have not been as sensational as were expected a month ago, though values have continued to strengthen, and considering the limited stocks of domestic grades, great activity has been shown. In a way, it may be said that both dealers and manufacturers have been in a waiting attitude, yet this might not be readily inferred from the volume of business transacted, the strong upward trend of prices, nor the way the new Territory wools are being contracted. Waiting seems to have been mostly applied to what the government might do in case war was actually declared. Large contracts for army goods would undoubtedly be placed in such a contingency, and in fact something has already been done beyond the regular contracts usually placed at this time for the regular army.

Manufacturers of woollen goods have taken an immense volume of orders for the heavy-weight season, but the worsted people have not been so fortunate, through fairly well supplied with business. It is generally expected in the trade that the specifications of the government contracts will need to be modified, owing to the admitted shortage in certain grades of wool, and if a big army has to be outfitted in a hurry, almost any kind of wool will become available. Optimistic members of the trade are looking to see the war continue at least through 1917, and are predicting that wool may go to \$2, or even \$2.50, a scoured pound, before the top is reached. They

claim that the higher figures are no more unreasonable than were similar predictions of \$1.50 a scoured pound, when that figure was named. Now the latter has been reached and exceeded on certain grades, notably Australian fine combing, which has sold at \$1.50 or better, with the remaining lots unsold in this market held at \$1.60 and upward.

Very little greasy Australian wool is to be had of any grade, carbonizing wools being about the only thing available. Such wools have sold up to about \$1.25, one lot of 350 bales choice fine white wool bringing up to \$1.24½.

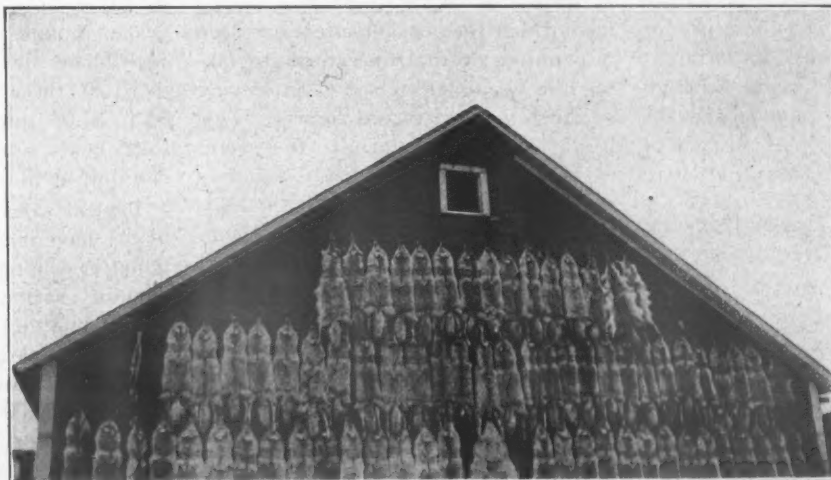
only to have the buying renewed again very shortly, and at a new level of prices.

Manufacturers have taken enough of these speculative wools to keep alive the speculative feeling, and they are gradually being picked away. Further supplies of scouring wools are promised from South Africa, the last steamer from thence, arriving late in February, bringing a large proportion of short clothing and scouring stock. These wools are expected to be wanted by the woolen mills, though the main reliance of the speculators appears to have been on the possibility that the

government would shortly be in the market for a big volume of army supplies. Whatever the cause, a tremendous volume of such wools have been sold during the month, the weekly aggregate sometimes running as high as 12,000 to 15,000 bags.

Outside of these scoured foreign grades, operations in foreign sorts have been mainly in greasy South Amer-

ican and Cape wools. Latter have been in fair supply, a single steamer bringing in 14,107 bales, or 4,655,310 pounds. At the end of February, the best combing Capes were selling at \$1.30 to \$1.35 clean, with French combing at \$1.15 to \$1.25 and short clothing and scouring wools at \$1.05 to \$1.10. Purchases for America in the Cape Colony have been much smaller this season than they were a year ago, high prices and transportation difficulties tending to restrict operations. Shipments from South Africa to this country to date probably do not exceed 50,000 bales. Late reports from thence indicate that the season



Pelts of 74 Animals Killed in 60 Days by A. C. Jensen on Range of T. F. Arnold, Lusk, Wyoming. Anytime Sheepmen Unite They Can Clean Up the Coyotes.

Some Australian scoureds have been included in the transfers of the month, though the great bulk of the transaction noted has been in Cape scoureds. Indeed, this has been the most notable feature of the month. Thousands of bags of scoured wool, including all available grades, have changed hands, many lots several times over. Speculative excitement ran high at times, and it was not unusual for the same lot of wool to change hands two or three times in a single day, and at a profit for each of the sellers. After each burst of this excitement, the market would quiet down for a few days,

is about over, as far as this country is concerned. Americans are not likely to buy much more wool there this season, as the best clips have been mainly sold. Last year the total shipments from the Cape Colony to this country were about 150,000 bales.

South American advices are no more reassuring to those looking for lower prices than are those received from South Africa. Most of the best wools have been sold, both at Buenos Aires and Montevideo, though an occasional cabled offer shows that a few are left. These scattering lots are being offered at prices much above what buyers here are willing to pay. Most transactions of late have been in off grades, such wools as Chubuts, Bahia Blancas, Punta Arenas figuring largely in the totals. Standard Buenos Aires crossbreds are quotable at 51 to 52 cents for Lincolns, 53 to 54 cents for straight quarters and 57 to 58 cents for high quarters. Montevideo standard wools have changed hands on the basis of \$1.25 clean for 64s Merinos, \$1.10 to \$1.15 for 58s to 60s and \$1 to \$1.05 for 56s. Chubut Merinos have changed hands on the basis of \$1.10 to \$1.15.

Little advance has made during the month in clearing up the Australian situation. England's promise of 50,000 bales of Australian Merinos to be allotted to America seems as far from realization as ever. At least, nothing further has been done. On the other hand, the few thousand bales bought in Australia before the clip was commandeered, according to latest advices, are to be taken over by the government. Importers here say that if the British authorities were really in earnest about allowing anything to come to this country, the simplest way would be to allow the actual owners of wool to ship direct. Some members of the wool trade are outspoken in the matter, though no one cares to be quoted, for manifest reasons, believing that nothing is to be hoped for, if Bradford has its way.

What effect the actual declaration of war between the United States and Germany would have on England's attitude on the wool question remains to

be seen. England is rapidly approaching the point where her policy regarding the Australian wool clip for another season must be decided. Shearing has already commenced in Queensland, and by July 1 at least 250,000 bales will be available from that state alone. Unless something happens to put the United States in the list of England's allies, and consequently entitled to buying privileges in the colonies, America is likely to have a meager supply, compared with the 564,400 bales imported from Australia last season. It can not be denied that these things have a tremendous importance in their bearing on the wool situation in this country.

Operations here and in the West have recently been of a character to indicate that either there is a strong feeling that the possible effect has been discounted, or that operators are taking the "gambler's chance" in buying so much wool at record figures. This would apply particularly to the operations of a Western syndicate, which is reported to be "plunging" in the matter of both quantity and value. Conservative wool men here believe that nothing but the successful marketing of the wool can justify such high prices. Attention is called to the fact that an enormous amount of capital is required to finance wool contracting this year. Growers are demanding up to one-third of the estimated value of their clips, one case being cited where the advance amounted to \$75,000. Experienced wool men say that they have never known a successful year when the market did not go through a storm period, or a time of depression, before success was assured, and they have no reason to hope that this year will be an exception. When the time of stress comes, wool carried at over a dollar a pound, clean, will be more of a problem than when the cost was half that figure.

These things have had little effect, apparently, on either Eastern buyers or Western syndicates, recent quotations from all the best sections being at a minimum of 40 cents for medium clips. With a general range of 40 to 42 cents,

and running up to 45½ to 46 cents for choice medium clips in Montana, it is not strange that the more conservative members of the trade should look askance. One clip, reported sold at 45½ cents, is figured to show a clean cost laid down here of fully \$1.17. Contracting is now going on in Montana, the Triangle, Wyoming and Arizona, though in the latter state shearing is already underway, and in all sections there is a growing disposition to wait until shearing or to ship the wool East on consignment.

Owing to depleted stocks, comparatively little has been done in Territory wools for the month. Very lately some choice fine staple wool was sold on a basis that will make the scoured cost to the buyer \$1.30 to \$1.35, and this may be taken as a fair quotation for this grade, though there is little offering. Half-blood staple is quotable at \$1.10 to \$1.20, three-eighths-blood staple at \$1 to \$1.05, quarter-blood staple at 90 to 95 cents, and fine and fine medium clothing at \$1.05 to \$1.15.

Typical sales of Territories for the month have included 75,000 pounds original Wyoming at \$1.10 clean; 350,000 pounds, various grades, at private terms; fine and fine medium Montana in the original bags at \$1 to \$1.05 clean; New Mexico fine and fine medium at \$1 clean; 250,000 pounds three-eighths-blood Territory at 43 to 45 cents, or 98 cents to \$1 clean; 150,000 pounds Colorado at 35 cents, or \$1 to \$1.10 clean; 25,000 pounds quarter-blood at 43 cents, or 90 cents clean; fine and fine medium, New Mexico and other wools, partly original and partly graded, at \$1 to \$1.10 clean; three-eighths-blood Territory at 44 to 46 cents for Idaho and Wyoming clips, or \$1 and upward clean; fine and fine medium clothing at \$1 to \$1.15 clean; 180,000 pounds, various grades, at private terms, and a good-sized line of fine staple Montana at \$1.30 to \$1.35 clean.

Fleece wools have continued to advance steadily, and new high records have been made from time to time during the month. Typical sales have included Ohio fine washed delaine at 55 cents, Ohio half-blood combing at 52

cents, Ohio and Michigan quarter-blood combing at 48 cents. Ohio fine unwashed clothing at 42 cents, Michigan three-eighths-blood combing at 47½ to 48 cents, Ohio fine washed delaine at 54 cents and 57 cents, fine unwashed delaine at 50 cents, XX and above at 50 cents, three-eighths-blood combing at 52 cents, fine unwashed clothing at 43 cents, 500 bags Canadian tub-washed at 70 cents, 50,000 pounds Southern fleeces, Georgia, etc., at 44 cents, Indiana half-blood in the original bags at 49 cents, Ohio quarter-blood combing at 53 cents, Ohio XX and above at 52 cents, Ohio fine unwashed clothing at 44 cents, Ohio half-blood clothing at 48 cents, Ohio quarter-blood combing at 53 cents, and Michigan quarter-blood combing at 52 cents.

At the end of the month, current quotations on Ohio fleeces, based as far as possible on actual sales are 56 to 58 cents for fine washed delaine, 52 to 53 cents for XX and above, 52 to 53 cents for fine unwashed delaine, 44 to 45 cents for fine unwashed clothing, 54 to 55 cents for half-blood combing, 54 to 56 cents for three-eighths-blood combing, 53 to 55 cents for quarter-blood combing and 48 to 50 cents for medium clothing.

Scoured territories have continued scarce, good fine and fine medium selling at \$1 to \$1.10, according to quality and condition. Pulled wools have been moving steadily, especially combing pulled, which has been taken freely in the grease by the worsted mills. Eastern pullers are said to be well sold up, with no accumulation anywhere. Combing pulled wools have sold in the grease at 83 to 85 cents for fine, or \$1.05 clean, 80 cents for medium, or 90 to 95 cents clean, and 73 to 75 cents for coarse, or 83 to 85 cents clean. Scoured pulled wools were selling at the end of the month at 90 to 95 cents for Eastern B supers, 95 cents to \$1 for A supers and \$1.05 to \$1.15 for fine A supers and extras. Western pullings were quoted at 85 to 90 cents for B supers and 88 to 92 cents for A supers.

Receipts of foreign wool for the month were less than half of last year's

figures, the total receipts of all kinds of wool for February, as compiled at the Boston Chamber of Commerce, compared with the same month last year, being 31,309,758 pounds, including 10,310,556 pounds domestic and 20,999,202 pounds foreign. This compares with 60,666,351 pounds for February, 1916, of which 17,757,188 pounds were domestic and 42,909,163 pounds were foreign.

Total receipts from Jan. 1 to Feb. 28, 1917, were 91,024,826 pounds, of which 22,657,694 pounds were domestic and 68,367,132 pounds were foreign. For the same period in 1916, the total receipts were 109,087,430 pounds, including 27,796,094 pounds domestic and 81,291,336 pounds foreign.

feeder who last October paid \$6.25 a head for Lincoln lambs just contracted them for 11 cents a pound after shearing, weighed up here. These lambs now average about 93 pounds. Other feeders refused to contract at that price. These lambs are fattened on chopped alfalfa hay and rolled barley. Rolled barley is worth \$40 and chopped alfalfa hay \$8 a ton.

The Sheepmen's Company's Twenty-four-men Shearing Plant, where about 75,000 sheep will be sheared this year, will begin operations between the first and fifth of March and continue work for two months. Very little wool is contracted, and all clean cross-blood wool is held for 40 cents.

February lambing is now under way



Home of W. B. Barrett, Woolgrower, Heppner, Oregon.

Total shipments for the month of February were 23,665,442 pounds, against 32,473,188 pounds for the same month last year. Total shipments from Jan. 1 to Feb. 28, 1917, were 55,901,982 pounds, compared with 63,127,774 pounds for the same period in 1916.

FROM UMATILLA COUNTY, OREGON

We have had a very mild winter this year. There has been no snow to speak of and very little rain, thus making it an ideal winter for feeding sheep.

In the immediate vicinity, there are about 10,000 sheep being fed for mutton, 5,000 of which are lambs. One

in this section, and a bumper crop of lambs is expected as weather conditions are very favorable, and ewes are in excellent condition, due to the extremely mild winter. There are very few yearlings for sale this spring compared with other years. Most growers are holding their yearling ewes. A few yearling ewes were contracted early for \$8.50 a head after shearing, and a few are being held for \$10.

The sheepmen here are very jubilant over the new coyote bounty law of \$3 a head passed at the last meeting of the legislature. It is expected that this law will greatly increase the percentage of the lamb crop in the next few years. LEE BARTHOLOMEW, Ore

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"I have fed thousands of Western lambs that cost me around \$5.00 as feeders that lost money," remarked a veteran at the business during an exchange of reminiscences at one of the big feeding stations recently. "This season I filled up at an average cost of a little less than \$10 per hundred-weight and made more money than ever before, although the feed bill looked prohibitive. Putting in thin lambs at \$5.00 to sell at \$6.00 when fat often lost money, but margins of \$4.00 to \$5.00 per hundredweight, such as we have had this winter, insure profit. A thirty-pound gain at \$14.00 is \$4.20, not to speak of marking up the value of the original purchase, wherein lies the secret of the money making phase of the game. Profit depends not on what you give, but what you get."

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During the first week of March receipts of sheep and lambs at the principal markets of the United States were 50,000 less than the corresponding period of 1916. At that period, the bulk of the visible supply was in Colorado and Nebraska feed lots and that was rapidly dwindling. Stuff that did not go in last fall could not come out and the trade is facing a period of acute shortage that means materially higher prices if the consumer is able to go the pace.

J. E. P.

FROM CENTRAL MONTANA.

We are having an extremely tough winter here in Smith River Valley, Montana; it has been winter since October and most of the time cold feeding weather. Most of the stockmen had a very good crop of hay and got it put up in very fine shape, but it is about all gone. Grass on the range was short and the range is being fenced up considerably by the drylanders so that it is not what it used to be. We as a rule do not have to feed until about the first of January and then there are times of from ten

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E. W. GILE, Montana.

FORTY-ONE CENTS FOR IDAHO WOOL

Just as we go to press, we are advised by wire that an offer of 41 cents has been made for the wool around Shoshone, Idaho. We understand that all of these wools are in one pool and that in the aggregate something over 800,000 pounds are to be sold, and the 41 cents offer applied to the whole lot. We understand that the offer was not accepted.

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The financial statement of the American Woolen Company for the year 1916 shows that to have been the best year in the history of that organization. Its net earnings for the year total something over \$8,000,000. The American Woolen Company is one of the largest woolen manufacturing concerns in the United States, and its financial statement indicates that the manufacturers of wool are about as prosperous as the growers of wool.

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The Inter-Mountain Stock Show Association offer the following prizes

for carloads of fat sheep at Salt Lake City, April 4, 5 and 6:

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The National Wool Grower offers a special prize of \$50.00 for the best carload of fat lambs exhibited at the show.

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Naturally, the feed bill has been heavy, very heavy in many cases. Cottonseed cake has been used by the hundreds of carloads. Some corn has been fed, and in many sections the entire available supply of hay has been exhausted. All this feed has come to the sheepmen at higher prices than was ever before the case. High-priced wool and lambs will be a necessity in some sections to enable the sheepmen to break even.

RATES ON BALED WOOL.

When this association secured the reduction in wool freight rates in 1912, the Interstate Commerce Commission fixed the density for baled wool at nineteen pounds per cubic foot. At that time, little baled wool had been shipped and no accurate data as to how

much the density should be were available. However, during the past two seasons considerable wool has been baled, and as we improve the manner of preparing wool for market, more will be baled. But in baling wool at the shearing shed, it has been found that a density of nineteen pounds per cubic foot was too great. Some of the wools could be baled that tight; others could not without doing them injury.

As the rate on baled wool is about twenty-five cents per hundred less than on sacked wool, it is of great concern that the required density be reduced to a practical point.

With this in mind last fall, the National Wool Growers Association appealed to the railroads through the Interstate Commerce Commission for a reduction in the required density. The railroads have now refused this request and, therefore, the National Wool Growers Association has filed a complaint before the Interstate Commerce Commission asking them to hear evidence in the case and fix a reasonable density. The case has not as yet been set for hearing.

THE ANNUAL WOOL REVIEW.

We have before us the Annual Wool Review published by the National Association of Wool Manufacturers. The document is a very worthy one and contains much valuable information. On another page is published the data for the different states. If we were to find fault with this report, most of our complaint would be against that

section dealing with the shrinkage of wool. The shrinkage of all American wool for the year 1916 is estimated at 59 per cent, but the Western states are given an average shrinkage of 64 per cent, which we feel is too high. This same report gave the estimated shrinkage of all wool in 1901, sixteen years ago, as 60.6 per cent. Certainly during the past ten years, the average shrinkage of our wool has been reduced more than 1½ per cent. During that period, we have changed from the heavy, oily wooled Merino to the light cross-bred, and we have also changed our method of herding sheep so as to get less dirt in the wool. These two factors, we think, should account for a reduction in shrinkage of far more than 1½ per cent.

Growers may well study the table published on another page. It contains a full lesson on the subject of wool shrinkage. It must be noted that the wools of Kentucky shrink only 38 per cent, while those of Nevada shrink 68 per cent. Thus, while the sheep of Nevada sheared 7½ pounds of wool, these fleeces yielded but 2.4 pounds of clean wool. As against this, we have the sheep of Kentucky shearing but 5 pounds of wool which yields 3.1 pounds of clean wool. Naturally the Nevada wool brought the most money because it was better wool, but how much more it would bring if it shrank less?

This report shows that the total wool product of the United States in 1916 was 288,490,000 pounds, a decrease of only 287,000 pounds from the clip of 1915. While this year's clip was practically the same size as that of last year, it brought a total of \$107,916,676, or \$22,715,722 more than the clip of 1915. This enhancement in the price is, of course, due to the European war.

LAMBS AND WOOL

NOT TOO HIGH

In a daily paper, we recently saw a cartoon, illustrating the advance in prices. Wool was placed first, potatoes second, wheat third, onions fourth, and

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When this association secured the reduction in wool freight rates in 1912, the Interstate Commerce Commission fixed the density for baled wool at nineteen pounds per cubic foot. At that time, little baled wool had been shipped and no accurate data as to how

much the density should be were available. However, during the past two seasons considerable wool has been baled, and as we improve the manner of preparing wool for market, more will be baled. But in baling wool at the shearing shed, it has been found that a density of nineteen pounds per cubic foot was too great. Some of the wools could be baled that tight; others could not without doing them injury.

As the rate on baled wool is about twenty-five cents per hundred less than on sacked wool, it is of great concern that the required density be reduced to a practical point.

With this in mind last fall, the National Wool Growers Association appealed to the railroads through the Interstate Commerce Commission for a reduction in the required density. The railroads have now refused this request and, therefore, the National Wool Growers Association has filed a complaint before the Interstate Commerce Commission asking them to hear evidence in the case and fix a reasonable density. The case has not as yet been set for hearing.

THE ANNUAL WOOL REVIEW.

We have before us the Annual Wool Review published by the National Association of Wool Manufacturers. The document is a very worthy one and contains much valuable information. On another page is published the data for the different states. If we were to find fault with this report, most of our complaint would be against that

section dealing with the shrinkage of wool. The shrinkage of all American wool for the year 1916 is estimated at 59 per cent, but the Western states are given an average shrinkage of 64 per cent, which we feel is too high. This same report gave the estimated shrinkage of all wool in 1901, sixteen years ago, as 60.6 per cent. Certainly during the past ten years, the average shrinkage of our wool has been reduced more than 1½ per cent. During that period, we have changed from the heavy, oily wooled Merino to the light cross-bred, and we have also changed our method of herding sheep so as to get less dirt in the wool. These two factors, we think, should account for a reduction in shrinkage of far more than 1½ per cent.

Growers may well study the table published on another page. It contains a full lesson on the subject of wool shrinkage. It must be noted that the wools of Kentucky shrink only 38 per cent, while those of Nevada shrink 68 per cent. Thus, while the sheep of Nevada sheared 7½ pounds of wool, these fleeces yielded but 2.4 pounds of clean wool. As against this, we have the sheep of Kentucky shearing but 5 pounds of wool which yields 3.1 pounds of clean wool. Naturally the Nevada wool brought the most money because it was better wool, but how much more it would bring if it shrank less?

This report shows that the total wool product of the United States in 1916 was 288,490,000 pounds, a decrease of only 287,000 pounds from the clip of 1915. While this year's clip was practically the same size as that of last year, it brought a total of \$107,916,676, or \$22,715,722 more than the clip of 1915. This enhancement in the price is, of course, due to the European war.

LAMBS AND WOOL

NOT TOO HIGH

In a daily paper, we recently saw a cartoon, illustrating the advance in prices. Wool was placed first, potatoes second, wheat third, onions fourth, and

so on. Such a cartoon only excites the prejudice of the public against the sheepman, who is already in bad repute. Our complaint against such publication is that it is misleading. Of all the products mentioned, wool had advanced least and its advance meant least to the consumer. Wool that is now selling at 40 cents sold before the war at 20 cents; the advance is about 100 per cent. Potatoes that are now selling at 4 cents a pound sold before the war at 1 cent a pound. The advance is 300 per cent. Wheat that sold before the war at 60 cents is now selling at \$1.70, an advance of nearly 200 per cent. Onions have advanced around 300 per cent. Of all these products, wool is the least offender of any of them.

But the consumer little feels the advance in wool for wool represents but a small fraction of the cost of woollen clothing. Before the war, we estimated that the sheepman received \$1.70 for the wool in an all-wool suit of clothes that retails at \$25.00. If wool has doubled in value, then the sheepman is actually getting \$1.70 more from the consumer on each \$25.00 suit that he buys. This represents an advance on the suit of less than 7 per cent. Clothing, of course, has advanced more than 7 per cent, but the rest of the advance is due to the increased costs of the other articles that enter into the cost of a suit and the sheepmen cannot be blamed for that.

Of all the articles that have advanced in price by reason of war, the consumer is less affected by wool prices than that of any other necessity of life.

THE WAY TO MORE WOOL.

The cry for more sheep and wool so far as the interest of the sheepman is concerned had better be "better sheep and wool." In the old days when men counted their sheep by tens of thousands, there was not much hope of improvement because the owner did not have the time to give the flocks his close attention. Now it is different. Flocks are smaller and "quantity" can

no longer be depended on to meet the advanced cost of operation.

So far as improvement in wool is concerned, the shearing shed is the place to make amends. If the ewes are still too numerous to receive individual attention, the rams at least can be gone over carefully and selected for both wool and mutton. Each ram's fleece can be weighed and carefully examined. Those with light shrinking wool and wool of good style and long staple and heavy fleeces can be marked and saved for use. Those that do not come up to the standard can be identified and marketed later. By close attention to the rams' fleeces a vast improvement in the wool clip can soon be accomplished. Selection is the path along which improvement in all flocks must come, and the 1917 shearing shed is the place to start the work.

TOIYABE NATIONAL FOREST.

Senator Pittman of Nevada has recently introduced a bill in the Senate of the United States, providing for the addition of several thousand acres to the Toiyabe National Forest in the state of Nevada. The addition that is to be made to this Forest is to be known as a Grazing Reserve. The reserve will be administered by the Forest Service in connection with the Forest that adjoins it. The lands that are being placed in this reserve are suitable for grazing and it is thought that regulation of the grazing will be beneficial to all concerned. Those interested in this bill may obtain a copy of it by writing to Senator Key Pittman, Washington, D. C.

SHEEP SALES.

In Idaho, a few bands of bred ewes have changed hands recently at from \$15.00 to \$16.00 per head. In most instances, these prices included National Forest rights. In Utah, bred ewes are traded in on a basis of about \$12.00.

Some yearling are being contracted after shearing at prices ranging from \$10.00 to \$10.50.

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FEBRUARY LIVE**MUTTON TRADE**

By J. E. Poole.

Usually a severe break occurs in the live mutton market as a prelude to Lent. This season nothing serious happened. It was a spectacular month, all previous records being demolished. At mid-month, the lamb market reached the crest of the advance, but by the close fat grades had declined 40@75 cents, heavy lambs being hit hardest. Yearlings showed a sympathetic decline with lambs the last half of the month, bulk closing 25 to 40¢ below the month's high time. Good matured muttons, however, finished at the highest prices of the month and in trade history and the spread between top sheep and lambs was more than \$1.00 per cwt, narrower at the month end than at the close of January.

Supply deficiency, an advancing wool market and war time prices for everything edible were the bullish influences the first half of the month, while a sluggish outlet for dressed meats, owing to agitation of high food prices, rising temperatures and the depressing influence of heavy direct shipments by packers from western markets to Chicago made a bear raid by killers on lamb values effective the latter half.

At month end fat handy lambs were selling steady to 15¢ higher than the close of January, heavy lambs a little lower, feeding lambs about steady, yearling little changed, good to choice aged wethers about 75¢ higher, fat ewes \$1.00 to \$1.25 higher and best bucks \$1.50 higher.

The month produced the following new record top prices: Native lambs \$15, fed western and Colorado fed lambs \$14.90, early fall shorn fed western lambs \$13.85, feeding lambs \$14.15, with one double to yard dealers at \$14.25, aged native and two-year-old fed western wethers \$12.50, native yearlings \$13.50, fed western and Colorado fed yearlings \$13.85, native and Colorado fed ewes \$12.00, fed western ewes \$11.85, matured native bucks \$11,

feeding yearling wethers \$12.50 and bred western yearling ewes at \$12.25.

Top lambs did not sell below \$14.50 during the month and just a few loads went above \$14.75. The fat lamb average for the month was \$14.35, or \$3.46 above the average of February, 1916. In February, 1912, fat lambs at Chicago averaged \$6.20, the lowest February within the last twelve years.

The February sheep average (matured ewes and wethers) was \$11.25, \$2.00 per cwt. above the corresponding month last year and comparing with a \$5.00 average for February, 1912, low February within the last twelve years.

Owing to high hoof cost and pelt values killers figured closely in mak-

\$1.00, or better, on the Boston market. Enthusiasm was evidenced in the western producing territory by the contracting of unborn lambs at \$10 per cwt.

At the end of the month half the Colorado-fed lamb supply was reported to have been marketed, little fed stuff was left to come from other sections and the market appeared scheduled to work higher.

CONDITIONS GOOD IN NEVADA

After a dry summer, the sheep came off the National Forests in much better condition than expected. Early snow enabled the sheep to go onto the



G. B. VanCleve and His Hounds Near Silver, Montana. For Some Time One Coyote a Day Has Been Taken.

ing purchases, high dressing and heavy fleece stuff selling at most times at well merited premiums over low dressing and light shearing stock. Still the former usually figured cheapest on the hooks. Weighty lambs were much more in evidence at month end than were tidy weights and a good 88 to 92-pound class closed at \$13.75 against \$14.50 for best handy weights.

Average packer sheep and lamb pelts sold at \$4.00, with \$4.25 asked late in the month, while heavy selected pelts were reported up to \$5.10. Montana wool was contracted in the West up to 42 to 43¢ or better while B. super cleaned pulled wool sold upward to

winter range earlier than usual, and the sheep generally have done well. Every sheepman here is holding all the ewes possible. Provided we have an average spring, there will be a good lot of wool and lambs. Wool has been contracted around 30 cents, and nearly all of it is sold. No sheep sales are reported here. We have had one of the longest cold spells here that we have had in years. All range cattle are being fed.

A great many coyotes are being killed by the government trappers. Several cases of rabies are reported in the state but not to any alarming extent. JOHN YELLAND, Nevada.

MISLEADING THE SETTLER.

Chicago, January 20.—“P. S. Eustis, passenger traffic manager of the Burlington Route, stated today that, following the passage of the new law which enabled a settler to secure a 640-acre homestead, there has been a very noticeable and gratifying increase in the number of homeseekers moving to settle on the Mondell lands along the Burlington's new Central Wyoming main line from Denver to Billings—the splendid grass lands in the vicinity of the new town of Douglas having proved a magnet for settlers. Every train for the past two weeks has carried one or more parties of from four, to ten homeseekers. Several days ago a party of fifty-one, from points adjacent to Pittsburg, went west to Moorcroft and Gillette, Wyo., just east of the Big Horn mountains and everyone of them ‘took up’ a homestead.”

Editor's note.—Above we publish an exact copy of a circular sent out by the advertising department of the Burlington railroad. We think this is one of the most vicious misrepresentations we have seen placed before the homesteader. This circular has been sent to all newspapers with the intention that it would be published and that the homesteaders would flock to Wyoming over the Burlington railroad. The circular is a clear attempt to mislead the homesteader into the belief that he can take up a 640-acre homestead. While as a matter of fact the Burlington railroad knows that not a single acre of land has as yet been designated as subject to the 640-acre law, and it is more than probable that little, if any, land on its line in Wyoming will ever be so designated if the provisions of the law are complied with, and the road must know that it will probably be eighteen months before these designations can be made. This circular refers to the “splendid grass lands in the vicinity of the new town of Douglas.” There is no new town in Wyoming by the name of Douglas. Douglas is one of the old towns of the state, nor has the Burlington railroad any new central Wyoming main line from Denver

to Billings. However, in an effort to mislead the settler and to filch a few dollars out of him by inducing him to buy a ticket over the Burlington railroad, this great transportation system attempts to mislead the homesteader into the belief that Douglas is a new town, that the Burlington has built a new road through Wyoming and that 640-acre homesteads may now be taken up. If justice was done in this case, the Burlington railroad would be required to

**If you have ewes,
yearlings or rams
to sell your
advertisement in
this paper will
place your pro-
duct before 5500
of our leading
sheepmen.**

pay the transportation of every settler that fails along its route in Wyoming. We have known of land agents, who have no responsibility, beating settlers out of their money, but when we reach the place where a great transportation system adopts that policy, it is time for the federal government to step in and take charge of that system.

Our subscription list is rapidly growing, especially in the West.

**FROM SAGUACHE
COUNTY, COLORADO**

Just a little bit of sheep news from this country. Sheep are doing exceptionally well this far, the present winter; no tender wool here; the herds have not suffered a single day this winter. The weather has been ideal, just a little snow occasionally, sufficient to lay the dust and keep the pasture in good condition. Hay is selling around \$10 per ton.

We are getting the coyotes pretty well thinned out, having been carrying on a poison campaign since the 10th of December last and will continue through February and March. The government officers now have the poison business in charge. They are making a kind of experiment unit of the entire San Luis valley.

The Saguache County Sheep and Wool Growers Association was offered last week 41c for wool and 10c for lambs, but nothing has been contracted. Our people believe that if war is declared wool will bring 50 cents per pound.

T. M. ALEXANDER, Colorado.

IN SOUTHERN MONTANA.

In your letter of February 15th, you say that you are going to make the National Wool Grower better in the future than in the past. As I can see it, there is only one way to do that, that is, to double the subscription price and send it out oftener. I am sure that many sheepmen would be glad to see the above action taken in view of the many market changes, and we rely largely on the National Wool Grower for the general trend of conditions.

We have had a rather moderate winter so far with plenty of wind to uncover the range, but it has been long drawn out in this section. Sheep are looking good for this time of the year.

I, with some others in this section, have contracted wool at 40 cents.

I have killed twenty-six coyotes on my ranch this winter. No more are in evidence.

C. W. HUDSON, Montana.

WOULD RATE SHEEP HERDERS.

It occurs to me that the possibility of co-operation by the various members of the Wool Growers Association throughout the country might include a line of work that has never been attempted to my knowledge, namely, a definite plan of rating the responsibility and capability of sheep herders. It has been a matter of much comment that owners of sheep entrust an immense amount of property to men who are usually not financially responsible. The wonder is often expressed that faithfulness and loyalty on the part of the sheep herders has been so general and that they look after the owners' interest as successfully as is done on the whole. But every sheep man knows that some men are exceptionally good, some men are only fair, some men are poor and some are entirely disreputable, unsafe and unreliable in every particular. The sheep men could protect each other against the latter class if some concerted action would be taken.

Having that in mind, I am offering this suggestion—that the various Wool Growers associations throughout the country establish a system of recognition that will be valuable to the sheep owners and valuable to the sheep herders as well. Let every employer of help with his sheep issue to his men whenever they are leaving his employ, a card classifying the man in one of four classes, and send a duplicate card to the secretary of his local association. The "A" card indicating exceptional ability and faithfulness and also indicating a reasonable economical camp management; a "B" card would indicate a good, loyal and efficient man, but with some things that could be improved upon, which might be that he was more extravagant than necessary with his camp supplies or some other defect not chargeable to poor herding or bad management with the sheep; a "C" card indicating that a man was capable but that he needed somebody over him to insure reasonably good service to the owner, that

he was not dependable in himself and could not be relied upon; a "D" card indicating a very undesirable employee, one who was either dishonest or incompetent or addicted to booze when on duty and when being depended upon, or for any other reason that he should not receive the encouragement and employment of the sheep owners of the country.

If some plan of this sort could be worked out by the sheep men it would probably result in a more economical use of food and materials supplied to the camps and an increase in the price of the class "A" men and a decrease in the wages of the class "C" men, and the non-employment of the class "D" men. Naturally the men of the "D" class

me that this idea is worth trying out, and with such modifications or changes of detail as may be found advisable, establish some plan for the mutual benefit of the sheep owners and the sheep herders.

E. T. BENSON, Washington.

POISONING COYOTES IN TEXAS

I have just read the instruction in the National Wool Grower for poisoning coyotes, and they are good. I have poisoned coyotes similar to this method, but not as scientifically. I think I will use this plan with success, as there are more coyotes this year than usual, which I attribute to the discontinuance of the bounty on wild animals.



A Future Sheepman Observing February as Coyote Month.

would oppose this kind of publicity because it would work to their disadvantage, but would it not benefit every good sheep herder in the country by giving him a standing that would mean money to him; would it not deter men from sometimes doing things that were not just right for the employer because of their anxiety to secure and hold class "A" recognition by the sheep men of the country.

To the men who are not satisfied with just running along in the same rut that has been followed heretofore but who are looking to cut expenses increase efficiency, and thereby improve business conditions, it seems to

Sheep generally in Texas are in good shape, which is usual when they are on short grass, this being an advantage of the sheep over other live stock. I remember in 1886 and also in 1894, when there was practically no grass, sheep went through in fine condition. In 1879, when other stock died by the thousands, sheep went through the winter without any loss.

I will try to have some good pictures taken of my flock, and if they are good and you can use them, I shall be glad to send some.

F. BECK, Coleman, Texas.

Get us a new subscriber.

Want to Find a Brother

By the name of Christ or C. C. Shaeffer. If living, must have post office address and if dead, a record of his death. Address letters to

M. A. SHAEFFER, White Hall, Montana

Insure Your Lambs

Inexperienced help kills the lamb crop. One lamb saved pays for a dozen copies of Total Per Cent Lambing Rules. Used by progressive sheepmen everywhere. Useful all seasons of the year.

Price, 50 Cents per Copy, Post-paid.
Address,

TOM BOYLAN,
Rock River, Wyo.

SHEEPMEN ATTENTION

If you want anything in the Purebred line, write us. Single or car lots.

MAPLE AVENUE STOCK FARM

Salt Lake City, Utah.

Eastern address, LUCAN, Ontario, Canada

Messrs. HICKMAN & SCRUBY, Court Lodge,
Egerton, Kent, England

Export Pedigree Livestock

OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS
Specialty made of show herds, show
locks, show horses for the Panama
Exposition.

Livestock is booming in North America, there is nothing to hinder importations required for exports from England, and the extra cost of insurance, freight, etc., is too small to make any difference.

Send for full particulars at once, if in a hurry, enquire by week end cabled letter. Americans ought to be importing bulls and rams by hundreds and we want to get busy.

FROM CACHE VALLEY, CAL.

Winter is still hanging on in this section; we have had some "Marchy" weather lately. January was the coldest month known in this section since its settlement. We had a fall of about sixteen inches of snow in the latter part of December and have had excellent sleighing up to February 10th, owing to the fact that January passed without the usual thaw.

Stock are all wintering in good shape, but hay is getting short in a good many places. Unless we have a thaw soon so as to start green feed, a good many small holders will have to buy hay (if there is any to buy) or move their stock.

I have heard of no offers on wool as yet but think we shall realize between 36 and 40 cents.

Coyotes are more numerous than they were in the early winter. I caught three during the first week in February with traps but have poisoned none yet.

Our land office at Susanville has been doing a genuine "Land Office Business" since the passage of the 640-Acre Homestead law. It looks as if every acre of grazing land outside of the Reserves will be filed on within the next six months. But it is my opinion that not more than 60 or 70 per cent of the applicants will ever make final proof. It's a case of "everybody's doing it; let's get in the swim." But even at that, it will revolutionize ranching in this section. Ranchers will have to make a 50 per cent decrease in number and raise a better grade of stock and run independent of the Reserve, for it surely looks as if Reserve rates

will become prohibitory within the next few years. The next two years will undoubtedly put the "quietus" on migratory sheep, as all lands that are not designated as coming under the 640-Acre Homestead law will probably be thrown into the Reserve.

F. CURTIS CHACE.

CHICAGO MARKET PRICES.

Prices on bulk of sheep and lambs for the weeks indicated:

Sheep.

Week ending.	Bulk.	Top.
Feb. 3	\$ 9.75@11.25	\$11.65
Feb. 10	10.25@11.50	11.70
Feb. 16	10.75@11.70	12.00
Feb. 24	11.00@12.00	12.50

Lambs.

Week ending.	Bulk.	Top.
Feb. 3	\$13.85@14.50	\$14.65
Feb. 10	14.00@14.75	14.85
Feb. 16	14.10@14.80	15.00
Feb. 24	14.00@14.70	14.75

Weekly average lamb prices:

Week ending.	Sheep.	Lambs.
Jan. 6	\$ 9.50	\$13.30
Jan. 13	9.75	13.70
Jan. 20	10.00	14.00
Jan. 27	10.50	14.05
Feb. 3	10.65	14.20
Feb. 10	11.00	14.35
Feb. 17	11.40	14.45
Feb. 24	*11.60	14.35

*Record.

IDAHO WOOL SELLING.

More than half of the clip in the state of Idaho has been contracted at the present date. So far as we know, the top price has been 40¼ cents, which was paid for the wool of the Rexburg pool. This pool sold its wool last year for 30 cents. We have been advised that a clip of wool near Lemhi has sold at 41 cents, but we have been unable to confirm this report. We do know, however, that Denning and Clark of Dubois, Idaho, have refused as high as 41½ cents for this year's wool. Idaho wools that were purchased early at around 35 cents are now selling at 40 cents on the sheep's back.

Breeding Ewes for Sale

One Band Medium Woolled Yearling Ewes.

One Band Medium Woolled Young Ewes.

One Band Medium Woolled Middle Aged Ewes.

All bred to lamb about May first. For particulars call on or address—J. E. MORSE, Dillon, Montana.

WHY LAMB RAISING FAILS.

Indicative of the difficulty in re-instating the wool and mutton industry is a report that comes from Kentucky where both ewes and lambs have been dying. The state veterinary force has been appealed to with the usual result, advice to avoid pasture infection by keeping ovine stock off the same grass two successive seasons. Sheep first go off feed, refuse water and lie down to die. Mortality this season is calculated to repress enthusiasm over lamb raising in the middle south.

J. E. P.

WILL USE DOCKING IRONS.

I am a reader of The Wool Grower and look forward with pleasure to its coming.

The winter has been moderate so far. Sheep around here have wintered much better than common and are carrying the best staple that I ever saw for this time of the year.

Haven't heard of a pound of wool being sold in eastern Oregon as yet. Grower's ideas are around 43 cents for cross-bred and I expect to see even more money paid.

There is plenty of moisture in the ground with heavy snow in the mountains. It looks like a good crop season ahead of us.

Our legislature has put a \$3 bounty on coyotes, but on females increases \$1 per year.

Last year's ram sale was the best sheep show I ever saw and I expect to come again.

I expect to use the Ellenwood docking iron on my lambs next spring. It is without doubt a great improvement on the old method.

K. G. WARNER,
Pendleton, Oregon.

FEW SHEEP IN**WESTERN OREGON**

I do not believe that we have 25 per cent as many sheep in the Willamette Valley in Oregon as we had three years ago. At that time, every farmer had

a small flock of sheep, but when the price went up, he sold them to speculators who shipped them to the market or to other sections. From Corvallis, Oregon, we used to ship five or six carloads of stock each week; now we ship about one carload. It was the high prices that put our farmers out of the sheep business, and I think it will take them many years to get back again.

ROY RICKARD, Oregon.

Lincolns — Cotswolds

One carload of yearling Lincoln Rams, one car of yearling Cotswold Rams, a few cars of Lincoln and Cotswold Ram lambs, a car each of Lincoln and Cotswold Ewes; also a few choice stud Rams.

R. S. ROBSON & SON,
Denfield, Ontario, Canada.

Sheep for Sale or Lease

For sale or lease 4239 head of high grade rambouillet sheep to the highest responsible bidder with sufficient security.

The sheep to be delivered at Osceola, Nevada or any attainable point within 200 miles of Osceola October 1st, 1917. Bids must be in by July 1st, 1917 accompanied by a certified statement of security offered.

The undersigned reserves the right to reject any or all bids.
Address JENS P. PETERSON, Scipio, Utah

Foreman Wanted

Wanted, sheep foreman for California, to take charge of a large flock pure bred sheep. Previous experience under range conditions necessary. Transportation paid to California. State age, experience, and if married, size of family.

Address, National Wool Growers Association
Salt Lake City, Utah

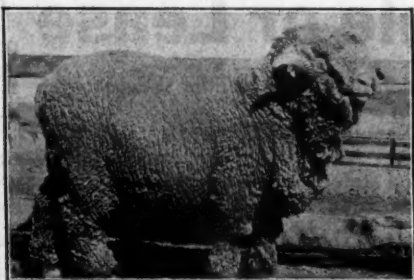
**Rams
for
Sale**

A band of 1000 purebred Lincoln and Cotswold Ewes.
Bred from the best stock to be found in United States
and Canada. Owned by Austin Bros., Salt Lake City, Utah

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We are breeding big, smooth bodied, heavy woolled, open faced Merino Rams. A large number of choice Rams for next season.

L. U. SHEEP COMPANY
DICKIE, WYOMING

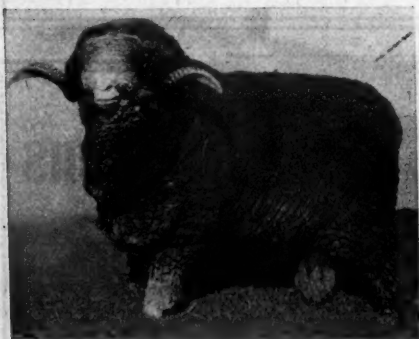


BALDWIN SHEEP CO.
HAY REEK, OREGON

Breeders of **RAMBOUILLETS** and
AMERICAN MERINOS

Nothing to sell right now but will have a good lot to choose from in 1917.

Stud Rams **RAMBOUILLETS** Range Rams



Our Champion C. Ram at Frisco

We offer for sale a large number of registered Rambouillet stud rams and range rams. Will sell in lots of one to a carload. We invite your careful inspection of our flock.

R. A. JACKSON, Dayton, Washington.

\$5.00 pays your dues to the National Wool Growers' Association for one year. Now is the time to join.

PAID TO TAKE WOOL OFF.

Despite the high price of wool and the fact that packers can use it to advantage, fall-shorn lambs have sold well. Some 98-pound stuff went as high as \$13.85, which was in excess of \$15 on a fleece basis. Shearing, however, has not been popular.

J. E. P.

VALUE OF COTTONSEED CAKE.

There is no feed generally available throughout the South and Southwest which can take the place of cottonseed meal for wintering cattle. Many cattle men think cottonseed meal has been too high in price to feed this winter, and consequently have reduced or eliminated it from the ration. This, combined with the severe winter, is responsible for most of the thin cattle. Cottonseed meal could be used profitably for wintering cattle if it cost \$60 per ton this year, when the price of other feeds is considered. It is safe to estimate that one pound of cottonseed meal is worth two pounds of corn, and for wintering cattle it is frequently worth more. If corn is worth 70 cents a bushel, cottonseed meal is then worth \$50 per ton; or if corn is worth \$1 per bushel, cottonseed meal is worth \$71.44 per ton for wintering stock cattle.—United States Department of Agriculture.

IN NORTHERN WYOMING.

We have had a good February except for a good fall of snow on the 17th. The range is practically free from snow except the brush and gulches. I believe it is safe to say that the sheep will come out with an average loss of less than 5 per cent. We have had a genuine hard winter. It started in here November 12, 1916, with 14 degrees below zero, and we have had several cold snaps as low as 25 degrees below zero.

The sheep here are on hay, corn, or cottonseed cake. Baled alfalfa has sold here at \$16 per ton and higher. No definite contracts have been made here for lambs or wool. One clip was reported six weeks ago to have been contracted at 33 cents.

Our train service has been very good this winter. If the Northwestern could not pull a full train, it would take half, and feed was never left setting on the sidetrack. We have suffered a great deal from wind this winter; the snow drifted into the cuts and delayed the trains.

H. PEARCE, Wyoming.

RAILROAD SERVICE HURTS.

Bad railroad service during February undoubtedly touched the sheepmen in the region of the pocketbook. It affected the movement of both live muttons and dressed stock eastward. Railroads may not have been to blame, but it was the poorest exhibition of service, or non-service, ever made. Eastern roads frequently paid shippers more money in settlement of claims than the freight bill amounted to. In Buffalo territory, conditions were worst, consignments over distances that ordinarily consume 20 to 24 hours, requiring several days to get to market. One shipment loaded at Montgomery, Illinois, on Monday did not reach Buffalo until Saturday. Much of the time Michigan and Ohio had no live stock service, feeders being compelled to hold purchases at the market a week or more. This is a questionable method of encouraging the industry.

J. E. P.

REGISTERED RAMBOUILLETS

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Bred and Raised by Us.

Our flock consists of 1000 Registered Rambouillet Ewes, 1000 Purebred unregistered Rambouillet Ewes. We offer for 1917-300 Registered Yearling Rambouillet Rams many of which are suitable to head the best American flocks.

Also 330 Purebred Yearling Rambouillet Range Rams.

QUEALY SHEEP COMPANY
COKEVILLE, WYOMING

WESTERN CANADA SHEEP PROSPECT

Interest in wool and mutton production is developing in the three western Canadian provinces, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta. J. D. McGregor of Brandon, and Speaker Sutherland, of the Saskatchewan legislature, have recently visited many feeding plants around Chicago and Omaha with the object of securing information concerning the utilization of mill screenings, which is practically dead loss to the Canadian farmer under present conditions.

"Western Canada is a better sheep and wool prospect than Montana," said Mr. McGregor, "but I doubt whether our people will become enthusiastic over it. They are not accustomed to handling sheep and not partial to the care involved. I am of the opinion that we could make \$2.00 with sheep where \$1.00 is possible by handling cattle and, doubtless, many flocks will be founded. We have a big local market and it would be many years before a material exportable surplus would be available."

EXPECT 20-CENT SPRINGERS.

A few early spring lambs reached Chicago during February. They were light and poor in quality, realizing 16 cents per pound. Good springers are expected to sell at 20 cents this side of Easter.

J. E. P.

FROM DOWN IN TEXAS.

I enjoy reading your monthly magazine very much; I wish it were published weekly.

We are having a hard and very dry winter here. Most of the sheepmen are feeding the thin sheep cake. The loss of sheep has been very light so far. I am feeding all my bred ewes something. Feeding three thousand head with high-priced feed makes it very expensive. But I am expecting 25 to 30 cents for wool and \$4.50 to \$5.00 for my lambs.

J. B. MOORE & SON, Texas.

\$11.75 FOR IDAHO LAMBS.

At Rupert, Idaho, an offer of \$11.75 per hundred has been made for lambs to be delivered the latter part of June.

We understand the offer was refused. This is the best offer of the season.

Every month our subscription list creeps up a little.

Mt. Pleasant Rambouillet Farm



UTAH BOY

I offer for 1917, 500 head of registered flock headers, and range yearling rams. My stud rams consist of imported and world's best noted flocks, also a limited number of ewes of the same type. From one to a carload, apply—

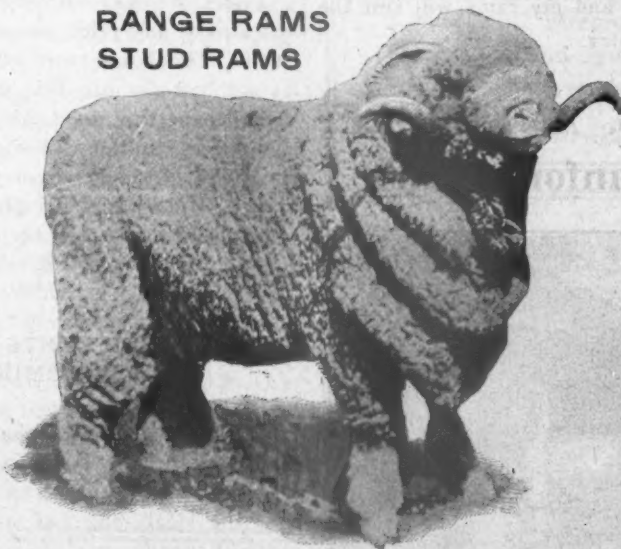
JOHN K. MADSEN

Phone 111. Mt. Pleasant, Utah.

RAMBOUILLETS

RANGE RAMS
STUD RAMS

MOUNTAIN DELL RAMBOUILLETS



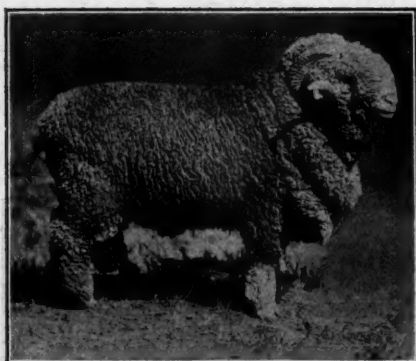
MOUNTAIN DELL RAMBOUILLETS

I offer for 1917 a select assortment of Stud Rams and Ewes as well as 1000 head of eligible to register Range Rams.

JOHN H. SEELY,

::

Mt. Pleasant, Utah

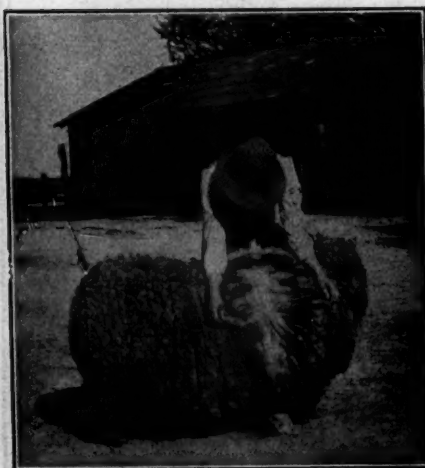


One of My Stud Rams

CALIFORNIA RAMBOUILLETS

My Rambouillets are large, smooth and well covered with heavy fleeces of long white wool. They are bred in a high, dry country and are very hardy. I have 2000 one and two-year-old rams for this season. If you visit California, call and see my flocks. My prices are reasonable and my rams will suit the range country.

CHAS. A. KIMBLE,
Hanford, Cal.



One of My Stud Ewes

FROM CLEARMONT, WYOMING.

Sheep have wintered well in spite of the long winter, although most sheepmen have fed either hay or corn. We have lots of crusted snow and no sign of thawing, but we are hoping that it will soon warm up.

The coyotes are more numerous than formerly, but a good many have been killed this year.

Wool has been contracted here at from 39 to 42½ cents.

VERNON S. GRIFFITH.

HIGH PRICES FOR WETHERS.

A full load of wethers has been a novelty recently at any market, and prices that look sensational have been registered. Late in February, Fox and Baker of Waterloo, Wisconsin, marketed a load of 150-pound sheep at \$12.50 that grossed \$18.75 per head, for which no precedent exists. This firm makes a practice of putting in thin wethers early in the fall and making a 40-pound gain, the result being that it invariably tops the market.

FROM ROCK SPRINGS, TEXAS.

Prices are way up here. You can get almost any price you ask for good stuff. The lamb crop will be short, as we had no rain this winter. We are all expecting good prices for wool. We are all handling some goats, which have proved as good, or better than sheep. Mohair sold as high as 60 cents last fall, and goatmen are expecting a higher price this spring.

T. W. DOBIN.

FORTY-THREE CENTS FOR WYOMING WOOL

We are just advised that Juan Esponda, of Buffalo, Wyoming, has sold his clip at forty-three cents. At the time the Healy clip was sold for 42½ cents, Esponda was offered 41 cents for his clip. However, he refused to sell and has now received 43 cents, which we believe is the highest Wyoming price up to March 10. This same clip sold last year at 28¼ cents.

RAMBOUILLET RAMS

I offer for 1917 500 YEARLING RAMBOUILLET RAMS. These are big, smooth, heavy wooled rams from registered parents.

W. D. CANDLAND, Mt. Pleasant, Utah

RAMBOUILLETS



I am offering 250 RAMBOUILLET YEARLING RAMS and 200 EWES, all REGISTERED. Also 7 Young Home Raised Registered Percheron Stallions.

W. S. HANSEN.

COLLINGTON, UTAH



I offer for this season 800 purebred Yearling Rambouillet Rams, large, smooth and heavy wooled.

C. N. STILLMAN
Sigurd, Utah

SHEEP UNDER FENCE.

A. J. Knollin considers the 640-Acre Homestead Law a blessing in disguise so far as the sheep grower is concerned. Temporarily it means the spoiling of a lot of range that is at present open, but a majority of the settlers who acquire homesteads in that manner will, in his opinion, convert their holdings into cash as soon as they have proved up, enabling sheep raisers to put their business on a land owning basis, which is the only method it can be safely operated on hereafter. The Heinrich Bros., of Montana, have concluded a test of fenced pasture economy and results show a material saving, compared with expense under open range conditions.

J. E. P.

KANSAS CITY LAMB MARKET.

Receipts for February this year were 149,739, as compared with 155,097 same month last year. The large end of the February supply came from the Arkansas Valley in Colorado, though that section showed a shortage from last year, the San Luis Valley also short, Kansas and Missouri short, but New Mexico and Texas showing a gain, and northern Colorado sending more than a year ago, as did also the Scottsbluff district in Nebraska. Receipts from the far West were very light. For March the same general trend will continue, with probably more to come from the Emporia and Leeds feeding stations than in February. In March the San Luis Valley will be a minus quantity in the receipts, that district being done for this season.

Quality averages about normal, fine feeding weather offsetting the tendency toward quick marketing induced by high prices for both fat stock and feeding lambs. Fat lamb prices reached their high point before the middle of the month, and have fluctuated mildly within a 50-cent range immediately below \$14.75 for tops since reaching that figure on Friday, February 9th. Best lambs close the month at \$14.40, middle grades around \$14.25, heavy lambs \$13.75 to \$14, feeding lambs \$13.50 to

\$13.90, top on feeding lambs for the month \$14.40, on Monday, the 26th, for lambs weighing 49 pounds. Weighty shearing lambs sold up to \$14.25. Only a few clippers here.

The supply of yearlings and aged sheep was light all through February, and prices not fully tested. Best ewes reached \$12 the middle of the month, and are still worth that much, for like quality, wethers up to \$12.35, yearlings \$13.25. Ewes and wethers sold strong at all times, almost entirely independent of any weakness in lamb prices. They will doubtless continue so unless there is a complete collapse of the market, which is not expected.

J. A. RICKART.

KILLING COYOTES.

In this issue is a photograph of G. B. Van Cleve of Silver, Montana, and his pack of dogs. The photograph shows his month's catch. For sometime, he has taken on an average of one coyote a day. Most of the coyotes taken are females.

COYOTES KILLED IN OREGON.

A prominent sheepman of Umatilla County, Oregon, said recently to a representative of this paper:

"We have placed a bounty of \$3.00 in Oregon on all male coyotes and a bounty of \$3.00 on female coyotes. This bounty increases \$1.00 each year on the female, but remains the same on the male coyotes. I do not believe there was any fraud in the old bounty, but it is thought that placing a bounty on females will bring about a more rapid destruction of coyotes. Anyway, there are not so many coyotes in Oregon now as there were before we had rabies. About four years ago, our coyotes became affected with rabies and most of them died. We found

many dead coyotes on the range, whose death could not be accounted for. One of my herders found twelve dead coyotes on his summer range, and their death could be explained only by the rabies."

For Sale or Rent

One of the best sheep ranges in Michigan. 17 miles of fence, abundance of grass and water, three miles to railroad.

Write to J. E. Beach, 409 E. Kearsley, St. Flint, Michigan

Strychnine**Sulphate or Alkaloid**

Write for Prices.

3 grain Strychnine, double pink capsules, same as furnished U. S. Biological Survey, \$2.00 per 100; \$15.00 per 1,000; 25,000 or more, \$12.50 per 1,000.

HERBERT F. DUGAN

1170 Sutter St., San Francisco, Calif.

Salt Lake City's Newest.

Hotel Newhouse

400 ROOMS

Every room with bath and outside exposure. Fireproof.

Rates \$1.50 and upwards.

Well equipped with sample rooms for commercial men.

F. V. HEIM, Managing Director.

HOTEL UTAH

SALT LAKE CITY

ROOMS WITHOUT BATH
\$1.50 and \$2.00 PER DAY
WITH BATH \$2.50 and UP.

"The very best of everything at sensible prices"

MORTGAGE LOANS FOR SHEEP MEN

Woolgrowers having ample ranges and large flocks are invited to correspond with us regarding long time mortgage loans. Established 1890. Assets \$15,000,000.

SPOKANE & EASTERN TRUST COMPANY

J. P. M. RICHARDS, Chairman.

SPOKANE, WASHINGTON

R. L. RUTTER, President.

Consolidated Machine Wagon & Company
 W.C. & M. Co.
Leading Implement and Hardware Dealers
WOOL GROWERS SUPPLIES
 At 50 Places in Utah and Idaho

SULPHUR ALL GRADES
 Any Quantity
 FROM A BAG TO A CARLOAD
 We are agents for the celebrated
BLACK LEAF 40
Z. C. M. I. DRUG STORE

WOOL BAGS We handle more Wool Bags than any dealer in the inter-mountain region.	PAPER TWINE "Reliance" Paper Fleece Twine has the greatest possible tensile and tying strength.
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SHEEP SHEARS
 B. B. A. and 71 or Trades Union Shears
SOFT ARKANSAS and LILY WHITE OIL STONES



SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

Mention the National Wool Grower

LINCOLN SHEEP MARKER

FROM CANS OF THIS TRADE MARK
 has been scientifically and practically tested to—
MARK the wool until sheared and—
REMOVE CLEAN when the wool is scoured.



STREVELL-PATERSON HDW. CO.

EXCLUSIVE JOBBERS

HARDWARE AND PAINT
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

WYOMING WOOL PRICES.

Speculators seeking to contract both wool and lambs have been much in evidence this last month. Since the sale of feeding lambs at 9½ cents the latter part of January we have learned of no further dealings, although ten cents has been offered fairly freely, with no takers.

Wool buyers, however, have been more successful. One of the largest clips in this section was sold some time since at 32½ cents, while last week another large outfit sold at 35 cents. One of the largest clips in northern Wyoming passed from grower to buyer at 42½ cents, which is the highest price we have yet heard. We understand that in the Casper country quite a few clips have been contracted at around 35 cents. Late press reports are that some clips along the Union Pacific have sold at 40 cents; but the bulk of the wools in that section is still held by the growers.

What induces growers to contract either wool or lambs so far ahead with present and prospective market conditions we fail to understand. While these prices are high compared with recent years, yet they are still low compared with those that prevailed at previous times in the history of this country when war conditions obtained which were small in comparison with

the present conflict. Financial needs of growers do not compel contracts for a long time ahead, and it would seem as if the grower would want what is coming to him. This contract business does not help the grower to put his business on a legitimate basis, and where any appreciable number do contract the prices made by them practically control the balance, for buyers have enough to exercise a powerful influence on the market. R. W.

AN AUSTRALIAN PEST.

American sheepmen feel that they are greatly pestered by the coyote, but in Australia the dingo is now reported to have become so destructive that they have forced men out of the sheep business. The dingo is slightly heavier than our coyote, but otherwise is much like him. In an effort to control their depredations, the Australian governments have from time to time erected dog-proof fences running for hundreds of miles through the country. These fences were so erected that the stock was on one side and the dingo on the other. Of course the side given up to dingoes was the back country which was unused for stock raising.

Recently, when efforts were made to handle sheep in this "back country," the dingoes were reported so numerous as to make the profitable handling of them out of the question.

FROM EASTERN IDAHO.

Being interested in the live stock business, I have become very interested in the National Wool Grower. It is welcome and eagerly read on its arrival. I think it is the most practical and instructive magazine published in the West, and should be supported by sheepmen and all enterprising citizens.

This winter, they are feeding in this locality about 12,000 head of sheep and approximately 1,300 head of cattle. There is sufficient hay to winter the stock although winter set in early in November. Unusually large quantities of hay were consumed during this ex-

tremely cold weather, but up to date all live stock look fine and will go on the range in good flesh and the sheep with fully as heavy a fleece as last year.

Winter lambing is becoming more and more practical on account of our spring range's being utilized by homesteaders. But we have the finest summer range in seven states; the Caraboo range is noted for its fine quality of Buffalo grass and variety of weeds that make the tallow stick to the ribs. Our summer range is under direct supervision of our able Forest Supervisor, Mr. I. W. Hastings, and his associate forester, Mr. F. M. Buttler.

There is one pest we must contend with, the sheepman's enemy, Mr. Coyote. There are also a few timber wolves in this locality, but few are being caught this winter on account of the bounty's being so small that the local trapper does not deem it worth while hunting the coyote. It is strange to say that approximately 280,000 sheep summer on the Caraboo National Forest, yet so little is done to exterminate the lamb-eater. Here is his home summer and winter. One can see them prowling over the flats and on the foothills. Much is said about putting out poison, and no doubt much good is derived by putting baits on the lower countries where the snowfall is light and does not drift and cover the baits. Poison is not practical in localities where much snow falls constantly during the winter months and covers the baits and traps immediately after they are set out, and are left to poison only the trustworthy sheep dog that chances along the following spring. When the baits are eventually thawed out and on the ground, live food is then plentiful for Mr. Coyote, and he passes up the baits.

Now, Mr. Sheepman, what shall we do? Or shall we not do anything at all? The summer range is where you figure your flocks will make you money by putting on flesh. The growth of your lambs and your profit will be in proportion to the care that is given them and the protection they receive the short time they are on the

CULLEN HOTEL

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

FRED J. LEONARD, Mgr.

Headquarters for Sheepmen

More Sheep bought and sold in the Cullen Hotel than in any hotel in the United States.

Rates \$1.00 and up

Save Shrinkage



**between Range
and Market
Use Santa Fe
Sheep-Feeding
Barns in transit**

Instead of a shrinkage between range or feed lot and market, the Santa Fe will bring you more money for your sheep and lambs by fattening them in transit.

Emporia Sheep-Feeding Barns Fatten your sheep in transit

Owned and operated by the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway Company. Capacity, 50,000 head. Scientific feeding, conducted by an expert sheep-feeder. Competent shearers, with fifteen modern shearing machines; capacity, 2,000 head daily; electric power.

The best alfalfa hay, alfalfa meal, corn and screenings. An abundance of pure water from never-failing wells.

When feed gives out at home or water fails, don't sacrifice your sheep. Turn them over to the Santa Fe, who will haul to these barns, fatten and deliver on market at your order. You will not have to pay a cent till the sheep are sold. **The sheepman's insurance against hard luck.**

You will be surprised to learn how small is the cost per head for this service. It will net you extra dollars when sheep are sold. Bill your sheep via Santa Fe, stop to feed at Emporia, and we will do the rest.

Santa Fe Emporia Sheep Barns are only a few hours away from the great Kansas City and St. Joseph live stock markets. St. Louis and Chicago markets can be reached without unloading.

Questions gladly answered. For picture folder of facts, write to

W. T. Treleven, Gen. Live Stock Agent, A. T. & S. F. Ry., Kansas City, Mo.,
or J. B. Baker, Mgr., Emporia Sheep Barns, Emporia, Kan.

Utah-Idaho Live Stock Loan Co.

LIVE STOCK LOANS

Telephone Was. 412

1023 Kearns Bldg.

Salt Lake City, Utah

Money to loan on cattle, sheep and hogs. Application blanks will be sent upon request.

M. K. Parsons, President

J. B. KERR, Manager

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W. S. McCornick, Director

J. Y. Rich, Director

S. A. Whitney, Director

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Salt Lake City, Utah

Courtesy, Helpfulness,
Strength

National Copper Bank
SALT LAKE CITY



The National City Bank member
of Federal Reserve Bank. Accounts of growers of sheep are invited.

JAMES PINGREE, President

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

HYRUM PINGREE, Cashier

Farmers and Stockgrowers Bank

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

Capital \$300,000.00

Surplus and Profits \$20,000.00

WOOLGROWERS ATTENTION

Are you satisfied with your present banking connections?
IF NOT---begin the New Year doing business with

The National Bank of the Republic

Capital	-	-	\$ 300,000.00
Surplus and Undivided Profits	-	-	358,487.63
Deposits	-	-	6,265,191.60

summer range. Every day, we hear some one saying the coyotes killed one, two or three lambs last night, or the coyotes cut off a bunch yesterday. In the fall, when the sheep come off of the National Forests, we are twenty-five head short; others are out one hundred head. This is lost profit; it is feeding the coyotes, and they surely are well fed in the summer time at the sheepman's expense. If the sheep business is profitable, would it not pay for the sheepmen to encourage legislation, permitting the state to levy a special tax on all range sheep and cattle for the purpose of raising the bounty fund so that the bounty would be large enough on these animals to make it a profitable business to hunt Mr. Coyote the year around, and as they decrease in number, increase the bounty. This would add to the profit which all stockmen will share in as well as to the public safety.

If the 640-Acre Grazing Homestead sticks, it will be very difficult to get through to the summer ranges in our locality. As the public domain is all applied for, this will eventually drive the small stockman out of business, and those that can buy up the range will have and control what has heretofore been the public domain.

OTTO PETERSEN, Idaho.

TEN CENTS REFUSED IN WYOMING

The winter has been pretty severe, but there has not been much loss up to date, although considerable cotton seed cake, corn and hay was fed, and with mild conditions prevailing at present, the prospects are encouraging for the coming season.

Breeding ewes are changing hands quite freely at \$12 per head. Yearling ewes at \$9.

Some wool contracted a month ago at 39 cents with liberal advance without interest. The majority of sheepmen refuse to contract, believing that conditions are in their favor. A neighbor told me of refusing on the 24th an offer to contract his lambs at 10 cents.

WM. E. TAYLOR, Wyoming.



ECONOMY

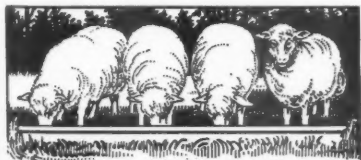
At least, should prompt you to investigate the splendid results sheepmen are securing through the feeding of—

SUNRIPE STOCK FEED

Contains just the food elements, in the right proportion to furnish a well-balanced ration for sheep.

A little goes a long way. A few feedings will convince you that it is real economy to feed Sunripe Stock Feed.

UTAH CEREAL FOOD CO.
OGDEN, UTAH



LONG MONTANA WINTER.

We have had an exceedingly long and severe winter, and the question of feed is beginning to look serious. Hay is selling at from \$15 to \$20 a ton and is scarce at that. There is more snow at present on the range than there has been at any time before for a good many years, and those not having plenty of hay available are beginning to suffer. Considerable cottonseed cake is being fed for the first time this season, and the results have been very satisfactory so far.

A few lambs have been contracted for October 1st delivery at 9 cents to 9¼ cents, and some wool sold at 40 cents, but most of the sheepmen are holding for better prices. Good young ewes would find a ready sale at \$12 to \$13, but there are very few for sale.

GEO. M. PARKER, Montana.

SHEEP LABOR PLENTYFUL IN IDAHO

There has been a great deal of talk this year about scarcity of labor and higher wages among the sheep fraternity. It may interest others to know that we recently advertised for herders and lambing hands, and turned away over twenty-five men besides the ones we hired, all of them anxious to go to work at the regular wages. Moreover, we are still receiving replies to the advertisement, which was run last week.

JAMES C. KNOLLIN, Idaho.

"You Want the Best for Your Money"

Ask your grocer for

Parker's Star Brand Peas and Tomatoes



STAR BRAND

**BETTER QUALITY AT THE
SAME PRICE**

**Demand PARKER'S STAR
BRAND, accept no substitute**

PARKER'S Peas and Tomatoes are packed by experienced canners in the most up to date plants, and are guaranteed to be perfectly fresh and wholesome.

The W. J. Parker Canneries
OGDEN, UTAH

*The largest packers of peas and tomatoes
in Utah*

Mr. Sheepman:

We are intensely interested in the wool industry---every suit of clothes we buy is chemically tested pure wool or nothing doing. Mr. Woolman:---Patronize the firm that's boosting for you.

MULLETT-KELLY CO.

Home of Chesterfield Clothes
156-158 South Main Street, Salt Lake City, Utah

Uintah Basin, Utah

We are buyers and sellers of cattle, sheep, horses and hogs.

Can always SELL breeding EWES, can make arrangements for feeding your stuff as we have the very best feeding location in the Intermountain country.

Have a few good stock ranches for sale.

For any information write
FARMERS COMMISSION CO.
J. M. Russell, Mgr., Roosevelt, Utah

"We buy and sell everything"
UTAH-IDAHO BROKERAGE COMPANY
No. 339 West 2nd South Street
Phone Was. 2987. SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
Hay, corn, cotton seed cake, oats, barley
or anything that the sheepman needs.

Cotton Seed Cake Corn, Barley, Oats and Hay

CARLOAD LOTS. QUICK SHIPMENT.

Merrill-Keyser Co.

Wasatch 3639

Salt Lake City

NOW IS THE TIME TO CONTRACT COTTON SEED CAKE CORN, HAY and FEED STOCK SALT

ANTI-HOG CHOLERA SERUM AND VIRUS
Write us for particulars.

QUICK SHIPMENT ALWAYS.

BROWN BROKERAGE CO.

EOOLES BLDG., OGDEN, UTAH

SCREENED COTTON SEED CAKE AND MEAL

Reduced freight rates enable us to quote lower prices on cotton seed products in ear lots. Wire or write us for prices delivered at your station on the 43 to 43 per cent and the 43 to 45 per cent protein.

If you have any left, it will be good carry over stock as it does not mold nor attract mice.

COLLINS BROKERAGE COMPANY
318 Dooly Block, Salt Lake City, Utah

NUMBER OF LIVE STOCK.

Washington, D. C.—The Department of Agriculture has made public its estimates of live stock on farms and ranges of the United States on January 1, 1917, in part, as follows:

Animals	Number	Value per head	Total value
Horses	21,126,000	\$102.94	\$2,174,629,000
Mules	4,639,000	118.32	548,834,000
Milch Cows	22,768,000	59.66	1,358,435,000
Other Cattle	40,819,000	35.88	1,465,786,000
Sheep	48,483,000	7.14	346,064,000
Swine	67,453,000	11.73	791,242,000

The number not on farms, i. e., in cities and villages, is not estimated yearly, but their number in 1910 as reported by the census was: Horses, 3,183,000; mules, 270,000; cattle, 1,879,000; sheep, 391,000; swine, 1,288,000. The census of 1910 also reported 106,000 asses and buros on farms and 17,000 not on farms; 2,915,000 goats on farms and 115,000 not on farms.

The following changes in farm animals compared with January 1, 1916, are indicated:

In numbers, horses have decreased 33,000; mules increased 46,000; milch cows increased 660,000; other cattle increased 1,037,000; sheep decreased 142,000; swine decreased 313,000.

In average value per head, horses increased \$1.34; mules increased \$4.49; milch cows increased \$5.74; other cattle increased \$2.35; sheep increased \$1.97; swine increased \$3.33.

In total value, horses increased \$24,843,000; mules increased \$26,030,000; milch cows increased \$166,480,000; other cattle increased \$130,858,000; sheep increased \$94,470,000; and swine increased \$221,669,000.

The total value on January 1, 1917, of all animals enumerated above was \$6,685,020,000, as compared with \$6,020,670,000, on January 1, 1916, an increase of \$664,350,000, or 11 per cent.

MANY WYOMING SETTLERS.

There has been considerable inquiry for ewes in this section, and several bunches of old ewes have sold at \$8 to \$10, while one lot of around a thousand and head went to Iowa farmers at \$11. Good breeding ewes are being offered by some outfits that are forced to sell

by the army of incoming homesteaders at \$12 to \$14, for April delivery. There has been considerable inquiry from the east for breeding ewes, with prospects of still more this coming summer. Settlers are fast taking up the range in this immediate locality; some of them are filing on 320 acres in order to get on the land at once, and then in a day or so making an additional entry for another half-section, under the 640-acre law. Whether they succeed in getting the latter remains to be seen. In any case, the sheepmen who are forced to quit will be able to liquidate at the highest level of values that has obtained in a lifetime. R. W.

OIL OR SHEEP?

"I was at Thermopolis when the Wyoming sheepmen had their state meeting," said D. D. Cutler, general live stock agent of the Northwestern, "but heard more about oil than sheep. That's the way it goes. A Montana friend of mine cleared up \$20,000 in sheep last year, but promptly sunk it in a hole in the ground down in Kansas that has merely delivered a flow of brine, which has little cash value." J. E. P.

FROM BAKER CITY, OREGON.

We have had a long, hard winter in this section. Hay is from \$8 to \$10 per ton, but I think every one provided himself with plenty in the fall for his stock, and sheep and cattle are wintering well with but very little loss.

I am winter-lambing 4,200 head of ewes and thus far am getting about 120 per cent. The weather is cold but not stormy.

The range is about all taken up under the new 640-Acre Homestead Law, and it will not be long before we will be running our sheep in small bands in pastures.

I am enclosing herewith a couple of pictures taken of the sheep in winter-lambing.

I am a reader of the National Wool Grower and appreciate it very much. G. E. MILLER, Oregon.

JAY H. DOBBIN, President
HENRY L. CORBETT, Vice President
J. C. AINSWORTH, Vice President

S. C. SPENCER, Secretary
E. F. ROY, Treasurer
E. W. RUMBLE, General Manager

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NORTH PORTLAND, OREGON
ADVANCES MADE ON WOOL. LOANS ON SHEEP.

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FRED W. FALCONER, Sheep and Wool Grower	Enterprise, Oregon
R. N. STANFIELD, Sheep and Wool Grower	Stanfield, Oregon
DAN P. SMYTHE, Sheep and Wool Grower	Pendleton, Oregon
C. C. COLT, President Union Meat Co.	Portland, Oregon
W. P. DICKEY, President Portland Cattle Loan Co.	Portland, Oregon
WM. H. DAUGHTREY, President Portland Union Stock Yards Co.	Portland, Oregon
FRANK BURKE, President Portland Feeder Co.	Portland, Oregon
E. W. RUMBLE, General Manager Columbia Basin Wool Warehouse Co.	Portland, Oregon
M. S. CORRIGALL, President First National Bank	Hepppner, Oregon
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The Salt Lake Hardware Co.

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Pennsylvania VACUUM CUP TIRES



Guaranteed—

Non Skid
Oil Proof
6000 Miles

They cost less
in the long run

The Salt Lake Hardware Co.

Salt Lake City, Utah

\$7.00 VALUATION.

The assessors of Utah recently held their annual meeting in Salt Lake City to fix a uniform and high valuation

on live stock. It was agreed that sheep in all counties should be valued at \$7.00 per head and range cattle at \$35.00.

SHEEP PELTS!**LEATHER STOCK!****SHEEP PELTS!**

LEATHER STOCK is in Big Demand and Sheep Pelts that we sell for you DIRECT to the Eastern Wool Pulleries are bringing prices that are astonishing and a trial shipment will convince you we can get you prices for your SHEEP PELTS that you could not get in any other way. We sell your sheep pelts on commission only, therefore You get Their Full Value. There is no in between profit. We are here to serve you and as you have found the commission way the BEST and ONLY way in selling your Live Stock, why not try it with your sheep pelts, and let us prove to you it is also the best in that. Save the pieces of pelts, they are worth money to you when we sell them for you. Any size shipment appreciated. Quotations and shipping tags furnished free. Inquiries gladly answered.

C. J. MUSTION WOOL COMMISSION COMPANY

(The Only Strictly Commission House in Kansas City)

1741-1743 Genesee Street

Opposite Stock Yards

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Jeremiah Williams & Co.**WOOL**

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CRIMMINS & PEIRCE CO.**WOOL MERCHANTS**

Foreign and Domestic Wool and Mohair

Wool, Silk, Camel Hair, Alpaca and Mohair Noils

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Branch Offices:

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43 CENTS PAID IN WYOMING.

A lot of 15,000 ewes in the Casper country was sold this week at \$12 per head, April delivery. They go to southern Wyoming. One of the largest clips of wool in this section has been sold at 40 cents. Reports from northern Wyoming are that some clips have been sold at 42 cents, and one clip at 43 cents this week. In that section quite a few lambs have been contracted at 10 cents. It is reported that one lot of lambs in the Casper country has been contracted at 10½ cents, and that quite a lot of lambs in that section have been sold at around 10 cents.

ROSCOE WOOD.

FAVORS IRONS FOR DOCKING.

I used Ellenwood's docking irons last year and would not sell my set for a hundred dollars if there were no more to be had. They are worth a lot to a band of lambs, as no lambs are set back from docking. They never stop growing for a day on account of marking when the tails are cut with this hot iron. Both ewe and wether lambs' tails can be cut short with perfect safety. I never lost a lamb from docking last year. It matters not how old they are. I have no fear in docking lambs with the iron from four to six weeks old and I feel sure one could dock old sheep if desired with perfect safety. Docking can be done just as quickly as with a knife, but it requires one more man to attend to the irons if the same speed is maintained.

J. L. COOPER, California.

Sheep Skins and Wool!

We maintain one of the largest pul-
leries for sheep skins on the Pacific
Coast and can pay highest prices at
all times.

Your consignments are solicited.

Write to the UNION MEAT COM-
PANY, Wool Department, North Port-
land, Oregon.

COTTON OR WOOL UNIFORMS.
(Textile World.)

The scarcity of wool is becoming so acute as to impel unusual economies in purchases of clothing, but prices are not yet high enough to force any wholesale substitution of cotton for wool. This assertion is drawn out by unofficial reports intimating that the Army Quartermaster's Department is considering a much larger use of cotton uniforms, even the use of these for winter wear in conjunction with wool underwear and overcoats, and that, as a preliminary to such a change, there is to be a scientific investigation of the comparative warmth, serviceability and hygienic qualities of cotton and wool clothing.

In view of the almost absolute dearth of prior research of this character, and of literature upon the subject, it would be somewhat hazardous to make the flat claim that cotton cannot be used advantageously to a greater extent than heretofore in uniforms and other clothing, but it is safe to assert that all-cotton uniforms, even when used with wool underwear and overcoats, cannot prove satisfactory for winter wear. It is fairly safe to go further and assert that conscription would be necessary to secure recruits for the army if it were known that this was to be the only character of clothing provided for winter wear. Custom and prejudice are mighty influential factors in determining the character of clothing used by different individuals; in fact, they and style are about the only determining factors, but it will need something more than the favorable report of a group of scientists to prove to the satisfaction of most people that cotton suits can be substituted for wool without danger to the health of the wearer in winter weather.

It is possible that, as a result of the scarcity of wool, the German army may endure the rigors of winter weather in uniforms made of 40 per cent paper, 40 per cent cotton and 20 per cent wool yarn, but they do so from necessity and not through choice. It was in failure to provide adequate reserve

FARNSWORTH, STEVENSON & CO.

Established 1848

WOOL MERCHANTS

Domestic Wools of All Descriptions Sold on Commission

CONSIGNMENTS SOLICITED

116-122 FEDERAL STREET

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**We will be in the market for
1917 Wool Clip**

B. HARRIS WOOL CO.

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WESTERN HEADQUARTERS

206 Judge Bldg., Salt Lake City

TELEPHONE WASATCH 1759

ATTENTION WOOL GROWERS

SALTER BROTHERS & COMPANY

WOOL BROKERS—216 SUMMER STREET, BOSTON, MASS.

Solicits wool shipments for direct sale to the mills. Always sold subject to shippers consent.
LIBERAL ADVANCES. BEST OF REFERENCES.

**Before Disposing of Your
Wool, Phone or Write—**

**COFFIN & GILLMORE
Wool Merchants**

PHILADELPHIA, : PA.

Large Handlers of Western Wools

Local Office, D. F. Walker Block,
Salt Lake City, Utah

Phone, Wasatch 4570
J. A. KEARNS, Agent

Identify Your Stock

The reason lost stock is seldom returned is because they lack Perfect Identification. Each animal should carry an ear tag with name and address of owner stamped thereon.



The "Perfect" Tag should be used because it is the lightest tag manufactured; made of aluminum; non-corrosive and non-poisonous. This ear tag is endorsed by stockmen all over the United States.

Send for FREE Sample Tag and Prices.

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Salt Lake City

Buick

The Thinker

The buyer of a Valve-in-Head Buick Six is NOT a faddist. He is a thinker. He can NOT be "stampeded."

Men who will possess the upward of 66,000 Valve-in-Head Sixes long before the end of the 1917 season will have thought Six and Valve-in-Head months before they become owners. Their act of purchase is an outward manifestation of a conviction. A conviction based upon the two most vital of motor car essentials, POWER and SMOOTHNESS. Both are flexibility—efficiency—economy. Both are tried, tested and proven.

ASK FOR DEMONSTRATION. WE'LL BE DELIGHTED TO TAKE YOU FOR A "BUICK" RIDE—ANY TIME.

RANDALL - DODD AUTO CO.

Auto Row Salt Lake Was. 4560

stocks of wool that the great German military machine made one of its most serious blunders, and there is not the slightest doubt but that they would pay a handsome premium on present high prices of wool if they could secure adequate supplies for the army. Great Britain and her Allies have had unexcelled opportunities to study the clothing needs of their army under actual war conditions, and they are quite as keen to economize in equipment purchases as are our government officials, yet they consider an adequate supply of wool of such vital importance to the successful prosecution of the war, that Great Britain has gone to enormous expense in requisitioning the entire British and Australasian wool clips. The British War Department and British industry have been keyed to a higher degree of efficiency than was ever known before, and it is reasonably certain that they did not overlook the possibility of substituting cotton for wool before tying up several hundred million dollars in the latter commodity.

IN EASTERN OREGON.

Here in Wallowa County, Oregon, we have had a long, steady winter—not very cold but plenty of snow for good feed yards. All the sheep on feed are wintering in fine condition. The winter ranges have been open, and stock of all kinds have been wintering well.

We have about 85,000 sheep in this county. Most of them are breeding ewes. About 20,000 ewes will be lambing in March, the remainder in April and May.

There has been no wool contracted here yet. The majority of the growers will ship their wool to the Columbia Basin Wool Warehouse Company in Portland, Oregon, and have it graded before selling.

There are no ewes for sale here at this time. A very few lambs have been contracted so far at \$5.75 per head for fall delivery.

ERNEST F. JOHNSON,
Oregon.

FEBRUARY IN WYOMING.

February is gone, and for central Wyoming it was very decent. The weather warmed up appreciably, snow melted, and water was obtainable in most places. This lack of water which had prevailed for practically two solid months did more to crimp stock than any other one thing. To be sure, cold and none too plentiful feed combined to shrink stock, but lack of water was fully as potent in taking off flesh. Cold dry snow makes little drink for any living animal; none thrive without water. At this writing winter with snow and zero temperatures seems to have reappeared, but unless we get a blizzard sheep are in good condition to withstand a wintry March. Most sheepmen are feeding cake or corn, and it is showing its beneficent results. Reports from other parts of the state, especially from the south, are of much more snow and severe weather. High winds have prevailed, and while they have piled the snow they have made handling stock difficult. From every section come reports of heavy feed bills. In the aggregate there should be little loss, in fact no more than the average, unless a blizzard strikes. R. W.

SHEEP RAISING IN MISSOURI.

The nucleus of a sheep industry has been established in southern Missouri. In October, 1915, Peter Fairbarn of Round-up, Montana, leased 5,000 acres of cut-over land and in 1916, raised over 1,000 lambs with 1,184 ewes, taken from Montana. Last fall, Harris and Harris of Broadmoor, Texas, purchased 10,000 acres adjoining the Fairbarn tract and have placed 2,000 ewes thereon, all bred for spring lambs. C. A. Solidey of North Dakota early in January shipped twelve carloads of ewes to the same locality, the unloading point being Winona, Shannon County, Missouri. These ewes were secured in New Mexico. Those responsible for this movement are of the opinion that southern Missouri is a lamb raising ground, fully equal to central Tennessee and Kentucky.

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OREGON NEWSPAPERS

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The circular that the National Wool Growers Association issued, giving directions for poisoning coyotes and setting aside February as "Poison Month" was published in almost every Oregon paper. Dr. Lytle, state veterinarian of Oregon, secured a large number of these circulars and mailed them to the papers with the following letter:

"I am herewith enclosing a small tract giving material for a systematic coyote poisoning crusade to be carried on in all the states of the West during the month of February. If you will give this matter consideration in your paper it will be of great value to the live stock industry of your section. You are probably aware of the fact that the Legislature is passing a coyote bounty law which provides for a bounty of \$3 on all coyotes killed in the year 1917, with an increase of \$1 per head on females thereafter. Naturally this increased bounty is going to materially assist in the eradication of the coyote. If your paper will join this crusade in promoting a systematic coyote poisoning before whelping time, the coyote will be materially lessened in number and a considerable less expenditure of money will be made necessary by the State and County to control this troublesome pest.

"Live stock was never so valuable as at the present time. A good lamb at birth is well worth from three to five dollars, and a calf is easily worth from seven to ten dollars, hence the services you may render your community in advertising and promoting this coyote poisoning crusade is indeed very great.

"I trust you will lend your aid and that you will give this matter the attention it deserves through the columns of your paper. If you could publish the method of preparing the poison and the proper distribution of the bait, it will be the means of doubtless causing a number of stock growers in your community to carry out this coyote poisoning crusade."

W. H. (HINIE) KLECKER
SALESMAN & MANAGER

R. H. (son) STOVER
FEEDER BUYER

HINIE KLECKER
SHEEP COMMISSION CO.

NOT INCORPORATED

Home Phone: Office 7211 Main; Sheep Barn
190 Main. Bell Phone 3366 Main.

ROOMS 812-14 LIVE STOCK EXCHANGE
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

WE BUY AND SELL SHEEP EXCLUSIVELY.

We hope each woolgrower will promptly pay his dues for 1917. As yet many have neglected this, but we have a right to ask for the support of every one.



Bring Us Your Power Problems

Their solution may be a far easier matter than you suppose. Every effort of this organization is directed toward making our electric service universally available.

Utah Power & Light Co.

When Writing to Advertisers Mention The National Wool Grower

"RELIANCE" PAPER FLEECE TWINE

"The Brown Kind"

ONE PLY — FOUR PLY
DEPENDABLE ALWAYS

PRICES HAVE BEEN FORCED HIGHER, BY INCREASED COST OF PAPER STOCK, BUT ARE BEING HELD AS LOW AS POSSIBLE AND WE HAVE ARRANGED TO SUPPLY OUR DISTRIBUTERS WITH SUFFICIENT TWINE TO CARE FOR A NORMAL AMOUNT OF BUSINESS.

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Kreso Dip No. 1

(STANDARDIZED)

The Dependable Dip

KILLS SHEEP TICKS

and other parasites

For the treatment of Sheep Scab, Mange, Ringworm, etc.

Helps the rapid healing of Shear Cuts, Scratches and Wounds.

A Dip That Does the Work Without Injury

To the Animal or Fleece.

No burning of the Fibres

No Staining, No Poisoning

No Sickening

Lambs go to the mother immediately after dipping.

EASY TO USE, EFFICIENT, ECONOMICAL

Equally Good for All Livestock
Kills Lice, Mites, Fleas, etc.

**A SANITARY PROTECTION
AGAINST**

HOG CHOLERA

and other contagious diseases.

Experiments on live hogs prove that a 2½ per cent dilution of Kreso Dip No. 1 will kill Virulent Hog Cholera Virus in 5 minutes by contact.

Write for free descriptive booklets on the care of Sheep and all livestock.

Parke, Davis & Co.

DEPARTMENT ANIMAL INDUSTRY
Detroit, Michigan

A COLORADO WOOL GROWERS ASSOCIATION

Knowing it should be of interest to your readers who live in Colorado and having been requested to do so by the president of the new association, I am writing to inform you of the fact that the "Colorado Sheep Growers Association" was brought into existence by a number of Colorado woolgrowers during the week of the Denver Stock Show. These sheepmen had met at that time and place to consult with various officers of importance in the national Forest Service, and came to the conclusion that it would be an advantage to the Forest Service to be able to deal with organized sheep owners' associations and their appointed representatives rather than with each individual owner in matters of general interest to the sheep industry and that it would also be an advantage to the individuals to be dwelt with on the well-known theory that "in union there is strength."

It is hoped and expected that the new association will be of assistance and protection to all Colorado sheep owners and that all the progressives in this state, who are interested in the sheep industry, will realize the value of a state organization of this kind and

will communicate with the president, Mr. Hollis R. Mills, or with the secretary, Mr. A. R. Buckley, both of Hartsel, Colorado, who will be glad to give them detailed information, trying to persuade them to strengthen the new organization and incidentally the interests of Colorado sheep owners by becoming members and readers of the National Wool Grower.

It was a great surprise to Mr. H. R. Mills, myself, and other woolgrowers from South Park, who have always been enthusiastic and grateful readers of the National Wool Grower, to find that it is still possible to meet a few progressive woolgrowers in Denver and elsewhere who have never heard of the National Wool Grower and the National Wool Warehouse and Storage Company. Fortunately for their peace of mind they know not what they have missed. Being of the opinion that these sheep owners in particular and the sheep industry in general throughout this state are losing important, invaluable information and opportunity by this state of affairs, I am beginning, in a small way, a missionary work, which I hope our new organization will take into consideration, and I am enclosing a list of names of various woolgrowers in Colorado, to each of whom I request you to send sample copies of

Overland
TRADE MARK REG.

Phone Was. 1934

Browning Auto & Supply Co.

55 West 4th, South

Willis
KNIGHT
Sleeve-Valve Motor

the National Wool Grower. For this purpose, I enclose my check. If our new association accomplishes no more than to provide itself with names and addresses of Colorado woolgrowers who have never read the National Wool Grower and to whom sample copies may be sent, it will not have existed in vain.

Good luck to your National Wool Grower, and remember that "It pays to advertise." It pays us for you to advertise.

LIONEL J. LIVESEY, Colorado.

SHEEP COMING FROM MEXICO.

Venturesome speculators are crossing the Rio Grande into old Mexico to secure both sheep and goats. The enterprise is risky, but thousands are being brought into the United States by this route. Those doing the gathering, travel hundreds of miles into the interior, using money to facilitate their operations. Tipping is necessary all along the line. One man got 8,000 goats across the Rio Grande a few weeks ago, sold them at a substantial profit and went back for more. Gathering parties go heavily armed and depend on force, diplomacy and coin to get back with their purchases.

J. E. P.

FROM NORTH CENTRAL, MONT.

We are having a fairly nice winter here. Sheep and cattle are looking well. There is lots of feed, and hay is cheap. There is not much stock left in this section to feed hay to, so the hay market is on the bum. The dry land farmer closed out a lot of sheepmen, and this new section grazing homestead law will put the finishing touches to what is left of the sheep business. I wonder where the Democrats will get the stock for the grazing homestead farmers, perhaps where they got the money to support the Treasury by issuing war stamps, or Wilson may put wool on the protected list again. There will be a shortage of wool unless something is done.

CHRIS. MALONEY, Montana.

THIS SPACE RESERVED FOR MONTPELIER STOCK YARDS, GRAZING PASTURES, AND OTHER STOCK YARDS OPERATED BY LEARY & WARREN CO., LESSEES.

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Or Telegraph Us.

for **FAT HOGS, CATTLE
AND SHEEP.**

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M. K. PARSONS & COMPANY LIVE STOCK

1023 Kearns Building

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WE SELL LIVE STOCK ON COMMISSION ONLY

Salt Lake Live Stock Commission Company, Inc.

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Salt Lake Union Stock Yards, Phone Wasatch 147

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Pioneer commission firm first to organize
at Salt Lake Union Stock Yards.

Reference: Utah State National Bank
Salt Lake City, Utah

Intermountain Live Stock Commission Co.

WE HANDLE

LIVE STOCK (Sheep a Specialty), RANGE LANDS RANCHES

"Phone, write or wire us if you want to buy or sell"

Telephone Was. 1906. 801 McIntyre Bldg., Salt Lake City, Utah

W. C. SNOW, President and Director
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HIGH GRADE FEED

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GLOBE GRAIN & MILLING CO.

Wheat, Oats, Barley, Corn, Cotton Seed Meal Cake. Timothy, Alfalfa, Rock Salt. Call or wire for particulars. Prompt service. Highest quality.

Attention Sheepmen

Common Sheep are selling for \$12.00 and \$15.00 per head. The wise sheepmen are not taking any chances of losing them during the severe weather, but are providing forage for them.

We have a large stock of Alfalfa, Clover Seeds, all kinds of Grasses and Field Peas at reasonable prices. Write us.

Many Sheepmen are also sowing our seed screenings on the public range, which means early feed and plenty of it. These screenings we can furnish at the low figure of 2 cents per pound. Write us for a Free Catalog.

VOGELER SEED & PRODUCE COMPANY, Salt Lake City, Utah

FEEDER LAMBS SCARCE.

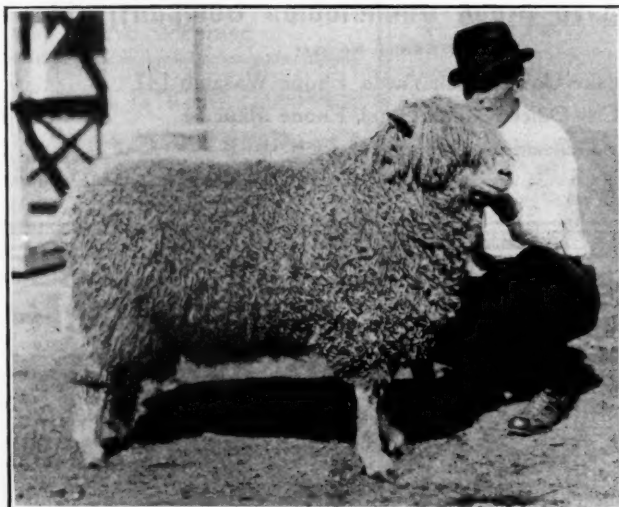
Speculator feeders have been combing the Northwest for lambs to put on grain at the big feeding stations, but have secured few. They would have bought a million at \$12 per hundred-weight in Montana if the stuff had been available. Some lambs have been put on feed in Nebraska, but not enough to relieve shortage late in the season.

J. E. P.

FROM KENTUCKY.

We have had a big lot of winter in Kentucky this year, as much as 14 inches of packed snow and 8 below zero. I have wondered many times how Governor Gooding was getting along with the bunch he planned to start lambing January 15th.

Over the long distance telephone this morning I refused 50 cents straight for 1916 Hampshire wool; the best I was offered was 47 cents the first of January. ROBERT BLASTOCK.

RAMS**COTSWOLDS****RAMS**

Champion Ram Utah State Fair 1916

AT THE SALT LAKE RAM SALE IN A COMPETITION OF 6 PENS EACH OF 25 RAMS WE WERE AWARDED 1ST, 2ND AND 3RD PREMIUMS FOR BEST RANGE RAMS.

AT THE UTAH STATE FAIR IN STRONG COMPETITION WE WON FIRST ON RAM 2 YEARS AND OVER; FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD ON RAM ONE YEAR AND UNDER TWO; FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD ON RAM LAMB; FIRST ON EWE BETWEEN 1 AND 2 YEARS; FIRST ON BREEDERS PEN; FIRST ON FLOCK AS WELL AS CHAMPION RAM AND CHAMPION EWE. WE ARE SOLD OUT FOR 1916, BUT WILL HAVE 600 YEARLING RAMS AND 700 RAM LAMBS FOR 1917.

DESERET SHEEP CO., BOISE, IDAHO

HIGH PRICES EVERYWHERE.

"What impressed me on a recent trip through the Northwest was incredibility concerning current prices of both wool and sheep," said a trade scout. "Nobody ever expected such values and many have an ineradicable idea that they cannot last. This is why the speculator is able to get along. Sheep raisers are peculiarly susceptible to bearish prognostication and the history of the business gives this disposition an ingrown appearance. Many with whom I talked insisted that the market was on a war-inflation basis and that stock sold at these prices was sagaciously disposed of."

"Billy" Weeks, assistant manager of the Kansas City Stock Yards, is back home after rounding up the Western meetings. He is an optimist in the matter of future prices of both wool and sheep, regarding any material increase in supply impossible. In the sheep raising country, he found prosperity the rule.

SOME SHEEP DYING.

Up to the present time, the winter here is the best we have had for years. Sheep are in fine shape, which means a good lambing and a good clip of wool. Early lambing begins in a few days.

More coyotes have been killed here this year than in any year in the past. Some rabies exist here, which is disposing of both the dogs and the coyotes. A desperate effort is being made to stamp it out.

In the feed lots here every winter, a good many sheep are lost from something like blind stagger. The losses were greater this winter than ever before. The sheep stagger around for a few days, after which they usually live from three to ten days, and then die. They seldom get well. A post-mortem shows the gall to be enlarged, and broken and all over the intestines. Can you give us a remedy?

D. G. GOODMAN,
Yakima County, Wash.

LIVE STOCK EXTENSION LIVE STOCK FINANCING LIVE STOCK PROCEEDS

AN ACCOUNT WITH US
WILL SOLVE YOUR
LIVE STOCK PROBLEMS

THE LIVE STOCK EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK OF CHICAGO

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS - - \$1,750,000

The McIntyre Building

Salt Lake City, Utah

Is Headquarters for the
NATIONAL and UTAH WOOL
GROWERS' ASSOCIATIONS

The Most Modern Fire-proof Building in the City

OFFICES FOR RENT

EVERY WOOL GROWER NEEDS AN ATTRACTIVE LETTER HEAD

WE PRINT THE

National Wool Grower

THAT IS A SAMPLE OF OUR WORK

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THE NATIONAL LINCOLN SHEEP BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

Write the secretary for information regarding this great wool and mutton breed of sheep.

H. M. LEE, President BERT SMITH, Secretary
Highgate, Ont. Charlotte, Mich.

FROM HUERFANO COUNTY COLORADO.

The wind is a very destructive element to the grasses in this part of the country, as it blows so hard that it blows the earth away from the roots. We have just went through one of the longest cold periods we have had for years, but notwithstanding this, sheep are going through the winter in better condition than last year, partly on account of the fact that sheep men are feeding more than ever, as they realize that every time they loose a ewe it means a loss to them of from fifteen to seventeen dollars, based on the present price of wool and mutton. Several years ago we wintered two thousand head of sheep out on the open range and did not feed a grain of corn or a stem of hay, simply trusting to luck to get through the winter; in those days you could buy good ewes for \$2.50 a head and in fact I have bought yearlings for fifty cents. I also remember the time when we stacked dead lambs up like fodder shocks and did not consider our loss more than common, but in the present days these losses are all cut down to a minimum. We are gradually loosing our sheep in this section of the country and a few more years at the present rate of depletion will find only a few thousand head around these parts.

The six hundred and forty acre homestead law is causing a great deal of anxiety among the flock masters and consequently most of the sheep men are adjusting their band to the range conditions, this will necessarily result in more but smaller bunches of better breeds, and I think in a few years the passing of the old fashion Merino is a foregone conclusion, as last year evidenced a desire for better rams and better stock. The sheep men naturally realizing that it costs no more to care for a good ewe than an inferior one. It does not take much argument to convince one familiar with the handling of sheep that a ewe producing a seventy-pound May lamb and shearing from eight to twelve-pound wool is more profitable at the present

high prices than a ewe producing a smaller and inferior lamb and shearing only three or four pounds of wool at six dollars per head, especially these days when range and feed is very essential. I do not know of any live stock on four feet that will put you in the clear of their original cost as soon as sheep, provided, however, one possesses a fair knowledge of their disposition and has adequate facilities for handling them, together with a little patience on his part.

A. J. MERRIT, Colorado.

FARM EWES SELLING.

There has been some mid-winter trade in bred ewes at the central markets. Jim Hogan of Galesburg, Mich., took 60 head of 94-pound yearlings at Chicago early in February at \$12.50 per hundredweight. As they were bred, he figured that he had a bargain and Hogan is an astute trader.

J. E. P.

AVERAGE WOOL PRICES.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 1.—The Department of Commerce has compiled the estimated average price per pound to producers of unwashed wool, monthly for six years, 1911-1916. The average price on June 15th of each year has been as follows:

1911	15.5 cents
1912	18.7 cents
1913	15.6 cents
1914	18.4 cents
1915	23.7 cents
1916	28.7 cents
Average	20.1 cents

American Rambouillet Sheep Breeders Ass'n

Membership Fee \$10. No annual dues. Flock books free to members. Volume XVI ready for delivery and pedigrees now being received for Volume XVII. Over 77,000 sheep on record.

President—F. S. KING,
Cheyenne, Wyo.

Secretary—DWIGHT LINCOLN,
Milford Center, Ohio.

For history of the breed, list of members, rules, blanks, etc., address the Secretary.